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'France seeking to free diplomats'

PARIS (AP) — Jean-Michel Baylet, secretary of state at the French Foreign Ministry, said Sunday that the government was taking all possible steps to secure the release of three French diplomats kidnapped in Beirut. "Twenty-four hours out of 24 we are making efforts to try to obtain the release of our citizens," Mr. Baylet said in an interview programme on Radio Monte Carlo. He refused to say whether or not the French government has been in contact with the kidnappers of Marcel Fontaine, the deputy consul at the embassy, Marcel Carton, the protocol officer, and Mr. Carton's daughter, Danielle Perez, a secretary in the cultural section. All three were kidnapped Friday. An anonymous caller telephoned a foreign news agency in Beirut and said the three had been abducted by Islamic Jihad, a clandestine organisation believed close to Iran.

PLO denies naming team for talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Sunday denied recent press statements, referred to one of its Cairo-based officials, that the PLO has actually "named the Palestinian side" of a suggested joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to hold negotiations with the American administration. The denial was contained in a statement distributed by the PLO office in Amman and which reiterated that "the Palestinian people could be represented by its legitimate representative — the PLO." The London-based Arabic daily Al Sharq Al Awsat had quoted Cairo-based Palestine National Council (PNC) member, Said Kamal as saying that the PLO has already named Palestinian members for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating team. But Sunday's statement described the report as "groundless" and said that Mr. Kamal was not "authorised to give" such report.

Algeria calls for end to Gulf war

BELGRADE (R) — Algeria will spare no effort to help bring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table, Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi said in an interview with the Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug Sunday. He expressed serious concern over the escalating Gulf war and said: "We are ready, as always, to work in finding a political solution to the conflict and in bringing the two warring sides to the negotiating table." Brahimi is due in Belgrade Monday for a three-day visit.

Ajlouni leaves for U.S.

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Kamel Ajlouni Sunday left for Washington to sign an agreement with the World Bank to finance 25 comprehensive health centres in Jordan. The agreement aims to reduce pressure on hospitals and train technical staff for the centres.

Arab youth injured by Israeli gunfire

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian teen-ager in the Kalandia refugee camp on the outskirts of Jerusalem after youths stoned a civilian bus and an army patrol Sunday, a military source said. The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said troops arrived at the camp three kilometres north of Jerusalem after Palestinians stoned an Israeli bus and smashed several windows. There were no reported injuries to bus passengers, the source said. The source said the wounded youngster was 17 years old, and added that further details about the incident were unavailable.

Car collisions claim 16 lives in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Sixteen persons, including five children, have been killed in two separate car collisions caused by heavy rains, the Cairo newspaper Al Gomhuria reported in its Sunday early edition. It said the first accident took place Thursday at the Nile Delta town of Damanhour when a truck collided with a car carrying 8 passengers, including 5 children. All the passengers plus the car's driver were killed. The second collision, also involving a car and a truck, occurred Thursday in the southern Egyptian town of Beba, the newspaper said.

4 die in Belgrade hotel fire

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Four people were killed and many were injured, including two seriously, in a hotel fire at Teslic-Vrucica, a spa in Bosnia-Herzegovina some 220 kilometres east of here, the official Tanjug News Agency said Sunday. It said no foreigners were among the dead. The cause of the blaze, which occurred in the five-storey building Saturday around 1600 local time (1500 GMT), was not immediately known, and an investigation was underway.

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Iraqi jets hit 2 ships near Kharg Island

BAHRAIN (R) — Two oil tankers were hit in apparent Iraqi air attacks Sunday south of Iran's main Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf, shipping sources said.

They said the ships were the 30,380-ton Maltese motor tanker Eastern Star and the 126,469-ton Italian supertanker Volere, initially identified as the Bolero.

Both were hit around the time Iraqi said its warplanes had attacked two "large naval targets", a term it often uses to designate oil tankers, in the northern Gulf.

A distress call requesting assistance was sent out by the Eastern Star giving its coordinates as 28 degrees north 51 degrees east, placing it 80 miles south-east of Kharg. It said the engine room of the 21-year-old ship was taking in water.

They said the Volere, built in 1975, which was nearer to Kharg when hit, was believed to be on fire.

They did not know if there were casualties on either ship or if the vessels were loaded.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi warplanes had scored "direct and effective hits" on two large naval targets — usually a reference to a merchant vessel — at 11:15 a.m. (0815 GMT).

Gulf sources gave the time of the distress call from the Eastern Star at around 11:15 a.m.

This was the 20th confirmed hit on a vessel by either Iraq or Iran this year as part of their 54-month-old war. The last confirmed strike was an Iraqi attack on Wednesday on the Iranian supply ship Bargir near Kharg Island in which six crewmen were reported killed.

In Naples, an Italian shipping company, Eraclide SPA, said none of the 30 crew aboard its supertanker Volere was hurt during an attack on the vessel in the Gulf Sunday.

A statement by the company, part of the Naples-based Lauro Shipping Group, gave no details of damage to the 126,469-ton Volere but said it had not caught fire.

The captain and about 20 of the 30 crew are Poles, a company spokesman said.

Iraq said Sunday Iran had shelled the southern port city of Basra and four Iraqi border towns, wounding two people and demolishing four houses.

A High Command Communique did not make clear when the bombardments took place, but the evening war communique normally covers activity over the previous 24 hours.

Basra residents said the city was shelled Saturday night and some 120 shells fell in a barrage which finished at about 9.00 p.m. (1800 GMT). The communique said the border towns of Mandali, Khanaqin, Sayed Saddeq and Khormal were also shelled.

Iraqi warplanes and helicopter gunships flew 54 combat missions against Iranian positions east of the Tigris River in south east Iraq, inflicting heavy casualties and destroying five boats, the communique said. All the aircraft returned safely to base, it added.

Iran said earlier Sunday it had stopped attacks on Iraqi towns and cities because there had been no Iraqi raids in the previous 24 hours. But it said it would resume them if Iraq hit Iranian civilian centres or shipping in the Gulf.

The Iraqis have long demanded a comprehensive peace or none at all and told this to a visiting Indian peace envoy sent by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, last week, according to diplomats in Baghdad.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein rejected Mr. Gandhi's call for a three-month ceasefire, they said.

Iran, short of aircraft and with its stock of long-range missiles, recently used for the first time, presumed to be limited, has come off worst in the last three weeks of mutual attacks on towns. More than 4,000 Iranian civilians were reported killed or wounded in Iraqi air raids or missile attacks on 33 cities over the past three weeks.

Iraq announced no casualty figures, but according to hospital sources 200 people died in Iranian shelling of the port of Basra and about 30 died in blasts in Baghdad said by Iran to have been caused by long-range missiles.

Iran is pressing for a limited ceasefire, forbidding attacks on civilian targets.

The Iraqis retain vastly superior firepower, hitting oil tankers near Kharg Island apparently at will with modern fighter planes and French-made sea-skimming Exocet missiles.



PATROL IN S. LEBANON: Israeli troops on their armoured personnel carriers are on alert as they pass through a South Lebanese village within the Israeli occupied zone (AP wirephoto)

Crown Prince calls for training to serve Jordan's best interests

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan opened a week of cultural activities at Mu'ta University Sunday with a call on Jordanian youth to train themselves in means that can serve the nation's best interests.

Prince Hassan also said that Jordan now faces numerous challenges and difficulties, and in dealing with them it draws on a heritage of principles laid down in the Great Arab Revolt.

Prince Hassan mentioned in particular two major challenges which, he said, Jordan now has to face.

One of these challenges, he said, is represented in Israel's occupation of Arab land, "because this occupation imposes a very complicated reality on the whole region, but Jordan has been forced to bear the lion's share of it, and of its consequences."

In view of this Israeli occupation Prince Hassan said, Jordan "has to be in a state of constant preparedness because this country guards the foremost confrontation line in defence of the Arab Nation, and therefore, it has to be continually supplied with all means that can enable it to remain stable and steadfast.

"For this to happen, Jordan's Armed Forces have to be equipped with the best weapons and must have the best possible training so as to carry out the national duty," Prince Hassan said.

The second challenge Prince Hassan said is represented in the economic circumstances that have affected Jordan, the Middle East region and the whole world.

"The current world economic situation, he said, "has imposed enormous pressures on the developing world including Jordan and, in this situation, an open and enlightened mind is required to handle the country's affairs with wisdom and in a balanced manner."

The Hashemite family has been characterised with tolerance and wise appraisal of all circumstances and an open mind in dealing with all situations, Prince Hassan said.

He said in all its policies Jordan draws on the principles and ideals of the Great Arab Revolt led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, great grandfather of His Majesty King Hussein. "The founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, also carried the standard of the Great Arab Revolt and spared no effort in establishing institutions and schools in Transjordan soon after this country won independence." Prince Hassan said.

"In Jordan, investment in human resources means developing manpower by offering the new generations very good training not only to become good citizens, but also to possess mentalities capable of adapting to various circumstances and at the same time preserving inherited principles and ideals." Prince Hassan pointed out.

He said that human resources can and should be developed to offer the best and most efficient service to the homeland.

Therefore, he said, the educational system in Jordan should be flexible to conform to the country's needs.

Reviewing the educational sys-

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King says current efforts 'last chance for Mideast peace'



MADRID (R) — His Majesty King Hussein, who starts a four-day state visit to Spain Monday was quoted Sunday as describing his current Middle East peace efforts as the last chance for a settlement.

He said in an interview with the newspaper El Pais: "This is the last chance to realise the dream of peace. There is almost no time left. Hardly a few months."

The monarch reaffirmed his support for Iraq in its war with Iran and restated his condemnation of Islamic fundamentalism.

"Atrocities perpetrated in the name of Islam have nothing to do with religion, and this includes continuing a war that has already caused enormous damage and misery," he said.

King Hussein said his talks with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez would cover the possible establishment of diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel.

"Spain is free to act according to its wishes... but there could be an adverse reaction in the Arab World," he said.

After ending their visit on Thursday, King Hussein and Queen Noor will make a private trip to Lanzarote in the Canary Islands.

Masri returns after Mideast talks in U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said here Sunday that he briefed the American administration in detail on the Jordanian-Palestinian accord of Feb. 11 and urged Washington to make speedy efforts for solving the Middle East issues.

Mr. Masri who was speaking upon returning here at the end of a visit to the United States, said he told the American administration that a solution for the Middle East problem is quite suitable at present.

Mr. Masri said he reiterated to the United States, Jordan's firm view of exchanging land for peace and the need for implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and 338.

"American administration officials have commended the brave stands of His Majesty King Hussein and his wise policies, and stressed the importance of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord promising they will do their best in the coming stage to find means for supporting this agreement by making the peace process moving again in a more serious manner", Mr. Masri said.

However, he said, Jordan regrets that the United States still refuses to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a representative of the Palestinian people.

"In my talks with the American administration, I stressed the legitimacy of the PLO and Jordan's commitment to this legitimacy, and on the need for the PLO to participate in any negotiations within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Mr. Masri said that he met with Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz and other senior American officials and with congressmen.

Saudi, Kuwaiti aides meet Benjedid

PARIS (R) — The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait conferred in Algiers Sunday with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

The Algerian News Agency (APS), monitored in Paris, gave no details of Mr. Benjedid's talks with Prince Saud Al Faisal of Saudi Arabia and Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait, but said when they arrived Saturday that they would discuss the Gulf war. Prince Saud also had a separate meeting with Mr. Benjedid.

Algeria, which has good relations with both Iran and Iraq, has been trying for months to mediate in the war.

The Kuwaiti minister said on arrival he had a mandate from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to visit Syria, Algeria and Libya in a new effort to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Both ministers are due to travel to neighbouring Tunisia to attend a meeting of the Arab League council of ministers which is expected to be dominated by the escalation in the fighting.

In Cairo Egypt's parliament Sunday urged leaders of Arab and Islamic countries to help end the Iran-Iraq war, which it said threatened the security of the region.

At the request of the opposition Wafd Party, the parliament issued an appeal to leaders of non-aligned, Muslim and Arab countries urging them to work to end the 4½-year-old war.

"The war is also exhausting the resources of the Muslim people in Iran and Iraq and we urge leaders of Muslim, Arab and non-aligned countries to work out a ceasefire and help end the conflict," the assembly added in a statement.

Iran's clergy reportedly criticising war conduct

LONDON (AP) — Leaflets found on the bodies of Iranians killed in their recent failed offensive indicate senior clerics in Iran are criticising the conduct of the 4-year-old war with Iraq, the Observer newspaper reported.

"A number of texts appear to have been circulated illicitly and were in secret pockets," said an article by the London weekly's defence correspondent, Ian Mather. "They may have had a demoralising effect on Iranian troops.

Mather said the texts were found on casualties from the Iranian offensive through the Hawizah Marshes north of the Shatt Al Arab, which was turned back by the Iraqis amid heavy casualties for Iran.

Mather reported that one tract was a reprinted series of lectures by Ayatollah Ozma Golpayagani, a grand ayatollah who lives in the holy city of Qom, attacking the government's declaration of a "Jihad", or holy war, against the Iraqis.

He quoted Golpayagani as saying no one has the right to declare a Jihad before the return of the "Invisible Imam," who according to Shi'ite Muslim orthodoxy disappeared in the 8th Century and will one day return.

The newspaper said the text "implied" that Tehran should halt the war once Iraqi troops are no longer on Iranian soil.

Iran's religious and political leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has insisted the war will continue until the government of Iraq is overthrown.

Two other ayatollahs "have been more explicit" in their dissidence, the Observer report said.

"Ayatollah Mourtaza Haeri, godfather of Khomeini's elder son, distributed a text through his supporters hinting that the Iranian regime's pursuit of the war might be 'aggressive,' and 'anti-Islamic,' an extraordinary claim," it said.

And Ayatollah Hassan Ghomi, son of the founder of the Qom Theological School, "declared that the death of (both) Iraqi and Iranian soldiers was 'a crime against Islam'."

The Observer report followed a speech by Khomeini Thursday which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said indicates Iran may be more willing to end the war.

In his speech, delivered to civil and military officials in Tehran, Khomeini said the most important thing for Muslim believers is not victory or defeat but whether they do God's will.

Mr. Shultz said the speech has "the possibility of saying that the Iranians can say they have done their duty because they've made a major effort."

Gemayel back in Beirut amid fresh fighting

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel flew back Sunday from short meetings with his Syrian and Cypriot counterparts to a capital hit by a fresh outbreak of fighting.

Security sources said the army closed two crossings between east Beirut and the mainly Muslim west of the capital for at least six hours because of sniping.

One person was wounded by a rifle-fired grenade that hit a west Beirut police post when fighting flared in the afternoon, security sources said.

Rival militias and army units clashed overnight with machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades in the ruins of the old city centre. Four hours of continuous firing at the height of the battle were the heaviest for months.

Mr. Gemayel flew back from the Cypriot port city of Larnaca by helicopter after a one-hour meeting with President Spyros Kyprianou, state-run Beirut Radio said.

The two leaders discussed bilateral relations and the divisions in each others' countries. Mr. Gemayel thanked Mr. Kyprianou for "the facilities Cyprus had been providing during Lebanon's crucial hours," Cyprus Radio said.

When fighting closes Beirut Airport, Lebanese travel 180 kilometres by boat in order to fly from Larnaca. Many Lebanese also live in Cyprus because of the civil war.

Mr. Gemayel spent the night in Larnaca after a five-hour meeting in Damascus with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, their sixth meeting since Mr. Gemayel took office in 1982.

Government sources told Reuters Mr. Gemayel wanted to prevent any armed intervention by Syria to crush a March 12 revolt by young Falangist militia officers. They took over the "Lebanese Forces" militia dominant in Christian areas north east of Beirut and previously controlled by Gemayel loyalists.

A Syrian presidential spokesman said Mr. Assad criticised any move that might serve Israeli interests and impede Lebanon's progress toward reconciliation, a reference to political concessions Syria wants the Falangists to make to Lebanon's opposition majority.

The presidential palace spokesman said Mr. Gemayel emphasised his "determination to resist this phenomenon, to continue to work for reconciliation."

Beirut press reports said Mr. Gemayel asked Mr. Assad for two months to neutralise the revolt without resorting to arms.

Mr. Assad was quoted by the spokesman as saying that Syria "cannot ignore or overlook any move that will serve the interests of Israel and enemies of Lebanon and Syria, or threaten the unity and land of the Lebanese people."

Mr. Gemayel said his government "is committed to the Arab option, reconciliation and liberation of Lebanese occupied lands," according to the palace spokesman.

Mr. Assad reiterated his country's "strong" support for the Lebanese people and government in their efforts to "liberate Lebanon from the invaders, maintain its integrity and encounter all designs hostile to Lebanon's interests or aimed at hindering its reconciliation march."

He said Syria's decision to support Lebanon was irrevocable for the interests of Lebanon, Syria and the entire "Arab nation."

Syria has described the Falangist militia revolt as a move linked to Israel.

Peres against preliminary negotiations without Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel opposes preliminary Middle East peace talks between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation because they would impose a settlement on Israel, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday.

Israel wants to negotiate directly with a Jordanian-Palestinian team but insists on the exclusion of members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Mr. Peres said in a statement after the weekly cabinet meeting.

The government opposes a call by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for preliminary talks without Israel, he said. The U.S. government is against such a meeting, Mr. Peres said, though American officials have said they were exploring the issue.

Israel has no objection to U.S. officials meeting non-PLO Palestinians or Jordanians so long as such contacts are not considered negotiations, senior government sources said.

Mr. Peres said Israel was interested in normalising its ties with Egypt through a discussion of all outstanding issues between them and not on an isolated topic.

A senior official said this meant Mr. Peres wanted to settle a dispute over the border strip of Taba in conjunction with about 14 other unclear border points.

The bulk of Sunday's cabinet meeting was devoted to cutting defence spending but the discussion was confidential.

Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin said Mr. Peres' statement was a denial of news reports last week that Israel had relaxed its objections to Jordanians and Palestinians meeting in Washington before beginning talks with the

(Continued on page 3)

Israel not to investigate killing of CBS newsmen

TEL AVIV (AP) — A member of Prime Minister Shimon Peres' cabinet said Sunday there was no reason to launch a formal inquiry into the killing of two CBS television crewmen by Israeli tank fire in Lebanon.

"There is nothing unclear to be investigated. It is clear how it happened, where it happened and why it happened," Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev told reporters after the weekly government session.

CBS, in a letter to Mr. Peres after Thursday's deaths, said the Israeli attack was "unprovoked" and called for an inquiry.

Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beigin said the ministers did not raise the issue during their Sunday session.

"There it is nothing for the government to debate about the issue, because nobody of course feels it was done on purpose. It was a wartime incident," he said.

Mr. Peres' spokesman Uri Savir and an Israeli army spokesman met for an hour and 45 minutes Sunday with CBS Vice President Ernest Leiser to discuss the deaths of the cameraman and soundman, both Lebanese citizens.

Mr. Leiser asked to meet Mr. Peres, Mr. Savir said, adding that he would relay the request to the prime minister.

CBS also cancelled a scheduled one-week special broadcast from Israel of its programme "Morning News".

The show was scheduled to be broadcast from Israel during the week of Easter.

Israeli President Chaim Herzog criticised CBS's protests and said anyone who covers a war zone should know that his life is at risk, Israel Radio reported.

Kidnappings trigger waves of alarm among Beirut's foreign community

By John Kohut
Reuter

BEIRUT — The recent kidnappings of three French nationals, two Britons and one American in west Beirut, all claimed by the shadowy "Islamic Jihad" (holy war) group, have caused alarm among foreigners.

Expatriates are looking both ways before leaving buildings, avoid walking the streets alone and stay home at night, where conversation invariably turns to speculation on when, if at all, the kidnappings will end.

A U.S. State Department travel advisory warns Americans to avoid Lebanon. British Ambassador David Miers has told the 70 Britons residing in west Beirut to leave unless they have compelling reasons for staying.

Only a few foreigners, mostly Britons and Americans, have left, but long-term expatriates interviewed by Reuters said they were more worried about their safety than at any time during Lebanon's civil war.

"During the worst fighting, Lebanese and foreigners were all in the saml boat, but now we are being singled out," said an American woman who has taught in west Beirut for five years.

"If my husband and I had jobs arranged outside of Lebanon, I think we would leave immediately," she said.

In addition to the six abducted since March 14, anonymous callers claiming to speak for "Islamic Jihad" say they are holding four Americans and a Saudi Arabian diplomat kidnapped in west Beirut over the last 15 months.

Women said they were now worried about their safety after the group claimed its first female victim when French embassy attache Marcel Carton and his daughter Danielle Perez, a 34-year-old embassy secretary, disappeared last Friday.

Gunmen on the same day forced French Vice-Consul Marcel Fontaine into a car as he bought newspapers near the embassy.

Eight of the 11 people held by "Islamic Jihad" have been abducted in broad daylight, and foreigners say they feel vulnerable at all times of the day.

"I definitely feel more nervous than before ... I don't even read newspapers while being driven in my car. I spend too much time looking around," an American news photographer said.

A housewife said she will not let her American husband leave the house, not even to do errands.

A French student who recently moved into west Beirut was forced out of his flat by neighbours, who told him "we don't want any foreigners here."

At a recent diplomatic reception, the consensus among the European guests was that caution was necessary but the threat was limited to the Americans, French and British because of their governments' foreign policies.

The kidnapping of two Britons and an American journalist came days after the United States vetoed a U.N. Security Council resolution that would have condemned Israeli practices in South Lebanon. Britain abstained in the March 11 vote.

France supported the resolution, but "Islamic Jihad" said the three French had been seized because of a reported barter deal under which France would supply Mirage planes to Saudi Arabia in exchange for oil. Saudi Arabia said Sunday no such deal had been agreed.

U.S. officials have linked Islamic Jihad" to the fundamentalist *Hezbollah*, a militant group led by a coalition of pro-Iranian clergymen.

Whoever the kidnappers are, Western diplomats said that if the wave of abductions extended to other nationals, smaller embassies might be forced to consider leaving Lebanon.

"Our trade with Lebanon is negligible, our interests in being here for political understanding and contact are all very fine, but the luxury of having an embassy here and the risks involved are leading to an unequal balance," one diplomat said.

"The irony is that if this group pushes foreigners out, it will only promote cantonisation of Lebanon, which is exactly what the main Muslim parties say they don't want," he said.

Another diplomat said it was important for embassies and foreign businesses to be in west Beirut "because here, Muslims and Christians live side by side and there is a chance of working with all sects to reconstruct this country."

Diplomats said concern for security had become such a priority that work had become difficult.

The British embassy last week shut its west Beirut office for an indefinite period. An armoured personnel carrier and soldiers now guard the door of the ambassador's residence.

Americans said they felt their security would be threatened as long as Washington failed to condemn Israel's raids on villages in South Lebanon, where scores of people have been killed since Israel began an "iron fist" policy last month.

"If our government would just straighten up, we would be all right", said the American woman college teacher.

An Italian United Nations official said he still went jogging alone every day by the sea front. "I think the value of U.N. work here is widely recognised. U.N. people have not been targets and besides, if the kidnappers want you, they'll get you."



Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko (left) is received by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at Kubba Presidential Palace in Cairo Sunday (AP wirephoto)

Mubarak, Mobutu review Gulf, Africa

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak held informal talks Sunday at the start of the Zairean leader's three-day visit to Egypt.

Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Boutros Ghali said Mr. Mobutu's visit, his fourth to Egypt, was in response to an invitation by Mr. Mubarak and that their talks would focus on consolidating bilateral relations in all fields.

He said the urgent problem of drought and desertification in Africa would also be discussed.

Egyptian officials say the two leaders, who share similar views on issues including the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in South Africa, will also stress the need for Africa to solve its own problems, and to keep the continent free from foreign intervention.

Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Mobutu are firm supporters of Chadian President Hissene Habre and supplied him with arms and men during a major offensive by Libyan-backed rebels in 1983.

Meanwhile in Lome, Togo, President Habre said Sunday that Libya has continued to increase its presence in the northern part of the country and that there are now 7,000 Libyan troops in the region with aviation, tanks and sophisticated air defences.

Mr. Habre, speaking to reporters at a news conference before returning home, said Libya was completing construction of a 4,000-metre runway in the north that will be capable of receiving any kind of aircraft.

The Libyan presence in northern Chad "camouflaged under the presence of Chadian elements which are in fact insignificant ... constitutes a grave danger and a very great preoccupation" for Chad and for the rest of Africa, the president claimed.

Under a mutual withdrawal agreement with France last fall, all Libyan troops were to have been pulled out along with the French. France finished withdrawing its 3,500 troops in mid-November.

President Francois Mitterrand has since admitted that Libya has failed to honour the accord.

Libyan regular troops have been backing rebels opposed to Mr. Habre, though Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has continued to deny that his soldiers are still present in Chad.

"Libya wants to create an irreversible situation in Chad like the one in Korea or Germany," Mr. Habre said. He said that no country could tolerate the occupation of 500,000 square kilometres of its country being occupied by a foreign power.

He said northern Chad is not merely a desert, as many would like to believe, but contains many riches, mainly oil.

Arab-Greek talks focus on joint projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab-Hellenic Congress for Economic Cooperation which concluded meetings in Athens on Thursday discussed Greek proposals for implementing joint Graeco-Arab projects to be sponsored by Arab investors and businessmen, member of the Jordanian delegation to the congress sessions Shawqi Haddadin said here Sunday.

Mr. Haddadin, who is director of the Trade Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said that the participants in the three-day congress studied Greek proposals for carrying out projects in mining, transport, tourism, and food industries.

Arab investors taking part in the meetings have expressed interest in these joint projects and said that they will pursue contacts with Greek businessmen to make a feasibility study of each project before further steps can be taken, Mr. Haddadin said.

The Arab-Hellenic Congress for Economic Cooperation was a high-level meeting supported by the presence of outstanding Arab and Greek personalities, and offered to the participants a unique opportunity to meet and discuss joint projects. The aim of the congress sessions was to further develop the economic cooperation between the Arab World and Greece, both by strengthening the existing close political and economic relations and by establishing the basis of various new fields of cooperation, according to a release by the congress's general information department.

It said that the participants reviewed joint economic cooperation in trade, investment, transport, tourism and shipping and also cooperation in developing the exchange of technology.

The Jordanian delegation grouped representatives of the public and private sectors.

Israel, citing 'dangerous situation' in S.Lebanon, recalls women soldiers

TEL AVIV (AP) — About 200 Israeli women soldiers have been ordered to leave Lebanon following an escalation of attacks on Israeli troops, military sources said Sunday.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the pullout of women had begun recently and was underway Sunday.

"The main reason is that it is part of the pullout from Lebanon but there is also an increasingly dangerous situation," said one source.

Women perform administrative, clerical and military police duties at main bases, including ones near Tyre and Nabatiyeh in the predominantly Shi'ite Muslim western sector. The bases will be dismantled as part of the withdrawal process.

Army radio said Israel's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Moshe Levy, ordered the evacuation following a recent increase in attacks against Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon. The radio estimated only about 200 women had served in Lebanon at a time since Israel's June 1982 invasion but gave no specific figure of those currently serving.

Israeli women, like men, are subject to compulsory draft at the age of 18. They serve 24 months but not in combat units.

Women soldiers were banned from Lebanon during the first few weeks of the invasion because of heavy fighting and social pressures against sending women to dangerous areas.

No Israeli women are among the 641 soldiers killed in Lebanon.

Women soldiers are trained in the use of firearms and carry weapons, but the radio said they are forbidden to leave bases in Lebanon unescorted and are usually flown home by helicopter.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres said last week that most of Israel's troops would be evacuated in two months time, and Israeli newspapers have reported plans to complete the withdrawal during May.

Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban said Saturday that domestic political considerations were slowing the withdrawal, Israel Radio reported.

Speaking before a meeting of Labour Party activists in Kfar Saba, 20 kilometres northeast of Tel Aviv, Mr. Eban said that he has been told that militarily the troop withdrawal could have been accomplished in one stage instead of three and that political considerations dictated a staged withdrawal that slowed the pullback, the radio reported.

Mr. Eban, who is chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee, said the "defence establishment" told him that the bipartisan government decided Jan. 14 on a three-stage withdrawal to avoid offending right-wing Likud party ministers in the government.

Mr. Peres has said that only military logistics were now dictating the pace of the Israeli withdrawal. Mr. Eban, a member of Mr. Peres' Labour Party, criticised ministers who call for maintaining a military presence in Lebanon and said this encouraged resistance forces to attack Israeli troops. He said Israel's so-called "iron fist" policy was not effective in blunting attacks on Israeli troops and that only a return of the Israeli army to the international border will end the resistance forces' pursuit of Israeli troops, he was reported as saying.

Six Likud ministers in the 25-minister cabinet, led by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, voted against the original cabinet proposal Jan. 14 claiming that the plan did not sufficiently "safeguard Israeli security" in South Lebanon.

18 charged for violence at Cairo trade fair

CAIRO (AP) — Eighteen people have been charged in connection with a violent anti-Israeli demonstration at the Cairo International Trade Fair, Egyptian State Security Prosecutor Ragaa Al Araby said Sunday.

Mr. Araby told the Associated Press the accused were charged Saturday with illegal assembly, resisting authority, criminal vandalism, interfering with public transport and illegal possession of leaflets.

Some 50 demonstrators paraded at the fairground on Friday to protest Israeli participation in the trade fair. They chanted anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans and burned replicas of the two nations' flags.

The protest took a violent turn when demonstrators attacked Security men with fists and stones and uprooted a pole flying the Israeli flag.

Mr. Araby said the suspects were free to appeal for their release pending trial but that none had done so.

Committee to stage protests in U.S. against Israeli practices in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Various Arab-American organisations, Palestinian and Arab associations and interested individuals plan to mark Tuesday as the "National Day of Solidarity with the People of South Lebanon" in protest against Israel's arbitrary measures against the people living in the occupied zone.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Lebanon, which is sponsoring the day's events in coordination with other associations and organisations, has called on all interested persons to take part in rallies and protests near Israeli diplomatic missions in various U.S. cities.

The committee said in a press release issued here that the planned protests are against:

— Israeli terrorism;
— demolishing homes;
—killing and wounding hundreds of civilians;
—bulldozing orchards;
—expulsion of Lebanese from their homes;
—mass arrests and executions;
—placing entire villages under seige and Israel's continued occupation of South Lebanon.

The committee is demanding:

—an immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon;
—an end to Israel's repressive measures in Lebanon;
—the legitimate right of the Lebanese to resist Israeli occupation and
—the territorial integrity, independence and unity of Lebanon.

Earlier this month, the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) condemned the recent U.S. veto of a United Nations Security Council resolution that called for a halt "to Israeli practices and measures against the civilian population in southern Lebanon."

In a statement, NAAA's Executive Director David Sadd commented that "what the United States seems to be saying is that it's all right for Israeli forces who are illegally occupying a foreign country to impose collective punishment on entire villages, carry out military reprisals in which innocent civilians as well as freedom fighters are killed, shoot suspects on sight with no questions asked, and demolish the homes belonging to families of suspects. These actions are not only inhuman, they are in direct violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which both Israel and the U.S. have signed."

Kuwaiti minister resigns

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's Social Affairs and Labour Minister Yousef Mohammad Al Nissef has resigned only three weeks after taking over the post in a major cabinet reshuffle, an official statement said Sunday.

The announcement, which gave no reason for the move — described by a Western diplomat as "very rare" — said Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah would take on the job in addition to his current portfolio.

Mr. Nissef, 51, was one of eight new faces appointed to the 16-member cabinet in a reshuffle on March 3 following national assembly elections last month.

Political analysts were puzzled by the move.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:10 Cartoons
17:35 Children Programme
17:50 Children Programme
18:05 Children Programme
18:30 Wonderful World of Plants
19:00 Local Programme on the Armed Forces
19:25 Programme Review
19:40 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Local Programme
20:45 Arabic Series
21:45 Tomorrow's Programmes
21:55 Arabic Series
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 Documentary (French)
19:00 News in French
19:15 Sport Magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Duty Free
21:10 Sorrell and Son (Last Eps.)
22:00 News in English
23:20 Chicago Stories

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
07:45 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session Contd.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 The 15th Century A.H.
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:15 Special Feature
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Contd.
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Contd.
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk **06:30** Goldfinger **06:45** Letter from London **06:55** Reflections **07:00** World News **07:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **07:30** Letterbox **07:45** Recording of the Week **08:00** Newsdesk **08:30** Time Remembered **09:00** World News **09:09** Twenty-For Hours: News Summary **09:30** Sarah and Company **10:00** World News **10:09** Reflections **10:15** Goldfinger **10:30** Anything Goes **11:00** World News **11:09** British Press Review **11:15** Waveguide **11:25** Good Books **11:40** Look Ahead **11:45** Peebles' Choice **12:00** News Summary **12:15** Science in Action **12:30** Music Now **13:00** World News **13:09** News About Britain **13:15** Sins of Old Age **13:30** Album Time **14:00** Radio Newsreel **14:15** Brain of Britain 1985 **14:45** Sports Round-up **15:00** World News **15:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **15:30** The Elements of Music **16:00** Outlook **16:45** At Home With... **17:00** Radio Newsreel **17:15** Mainstream **17:45** Sins of Old Age **18:00** World News **18:09** Commentary **18:15** Mediterranean Dialogue **18:30** Seven Wonders of the Modern World **18:45** The World Today **19:00** World News **19:09** Book Choice **19:15** My World! **19:45** Sports Round-up **20:00** Newsdesk **20:30** Passing Time **21:00** Outlook **21:30** Stock Market Report **21:45** Peebles' Choice **22:00** World News **22:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **22:30** Sports International **23:00** Network UK **23:15** Short Takes **23:30** Rock Salad **24:00** World News: The World Today **00:25** Book Choice **00:30** Financial News **00:40** Reflections **00:45** Sports Round-up **01:00** World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

06:00 VOA Morning: News. Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour. **17:00** News **17:10** Newsline **17:30** Music USA **18:00** News **18:10** Focus **18:30** Special English News and Features **19:00** News **19:10** Newsline **19:30** Magazine Show **20:00** News **20:10** Focus **20:30** Special English News and Features **21:00** Newsline America **21:30** Music USA **22:00** News and Editorial **22:15** Music USA Jazzzz **23:00** VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of china ink drawing by Mohammad Jalous at Petra Bank auditorium.

* Paintings exhibition by Adnan Helo at Alia Art Gallery.

* An Italian art exhibition of oriental paintings at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* An illustrated talk on "Recent Research on the Edomite Plateau" by Steve Hart at 7:00 p.m. at the British Council.

FEATURE FILM

* "Othello" at 7:00 p.m. at the British Council.

VIDEO

* Video folklore at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 661026/7
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tusdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.
Ile I Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 25383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

04:11 Fajr
05:33 (Sunrise) Duha
11:43 Dhuhr
15:12 'Asr
17:52 Maghreb
19:15 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:30 Aqaba (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
09:55 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ)
09:55 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:20 Beirut (RJ)
10:20 Cairo (MS)
10:50 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
15:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:35 Balgrade, Istanbul (JU)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

07:00 Beirut (RJ)
07:15 Aqaba (RJ)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
16:40 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
17:25 Istanbul, Balgrade (JU)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
19:40 Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
20:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Dubai (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Aqaba Crown
— Argonaut
— Pharos
— Rewi
— Jelsa
— Anwal

Amin Kawar and Sons Company, Tel: 22324 (six lines) at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in fils

Belgian franc	63.2/	63.7
Dutch guilder	112.5/	113.4
Egyptian guinea	305.3/	308.6
French franc	41.5/	41.8
Iraqi dinar	398.3/	408.3
Italian lire (for 100)	19.9/	20.2
Japanese yen (for 100)	160/	161.3
Kuwaiti dinar	1357.5	1366.6
Lebanese lira	21.9/	22.4
Omani riyal	1180/	1190
Qatari riyal	113/	113.6
Saudi riyal	114.1/	114.9
Swedish crown	44.5/	44.9
Swiss franc	150.2/	151.4
Syrian lira	35.5/	36.4
UAE dirham	112.1/	112.6
U.K. sterling pound	480.2/	484
U.S. dollar	409/	411.5
W. German mark	127.1/	128.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fine with scattered cloud and northerly moderate winds. An increase in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, wish northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman 6/16
Aqaba 13/27
Deserts 6/19
Jordan Valley 11/26

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 73 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
Firestaid, fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 771125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport .. (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre .. 813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm .. 44281-4
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman .. 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeissani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Mussibei Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Yousef Horani 25478
Dr. Nabeel Al Maridi 675338
Mreish pharmacy 770910
Nairoukh pharmacy 23672
Feras pharmacy 661912
Al Jaian' pharmacy 24228
Al Ekhlas pharmacy 22943
Jabal Al Taj pharmacy 772050
Al A'ila pharmacy 91163

TAXIS:
Jerusalem taxi 39655
Tasner taxi 666417
Khaled taxi 23715
Kurdi taxi 841309
Waddah taxi 812454

IRBID
Dr. Mohammad Al Shari' 273680
Al Hassan pharmacy 243916

ZARQA:
Dr. Sameer Lawzi (—)
Tareq pharmacy (—)
Anas pharmacy (—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	250 / 250	Mandarin	200 / 160
Banana	280 / 240	Marrow (large)	100 / 80
Banana (Mukannaar)	240 / 200	Marrow (small)	200 / 170
Beans	240 / 200	Onion (dry)	180 / 150
Bread (oven)	110 / 80	Onion (green)	160 / 120
Cabbage	100 / 70	Oranges (Abu Surra)	300 / 250
Chestnut	440 / 400	Oranges (Shamouti)	200 / 170
Carrot (yellow)	140 / 110	Parsley	70 / 70
Carrot (black)	140 / 110	Peas	340 / 300
Cauliflower	100 / 70	Pears (American)	600 / 540
Cucumber (large)	90 / 70	Pepper (sweet)	440 / 360
Cucumber (small)	140 / 110	Pepper (hot green)	720 / 640
Eggplant (large)	140 / 100	Potatoes (local)	170 / 140
Eggplant (small)	140 / 100	Radishes	90 / 70
Garlic	150 / 120	Spinach	120 / 90
Grapefruit	210 / 180	Tomatoes	140 / 100
Lemon	150 / 120	Turnip	120 / 100

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bank savings rise by JD 30m

AMMAN (Petra) — Local commercial bank savings increased by JD 30,334,000 during January compared to December 1984 savings. The monthly statistical report published by the Central Bank of Jordan said that bank savings for January reached JD 2,122,735,000 compared with JD 2,105,687,000 in December 1984.

Rainier lauds Abu Quora's services

AMMAN (Petra) — Prince Rainier III of Monaco has issued a decree naming chairman of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Quora as a member of the medical and legal committee of Monaco principality in appreciation of his services in health and humanitarian fields. The JNRCS has received a memo in this respect from the prime minister of Monaco. The three-year term committee comprise 21 prominent world figures as members.

Customs revenues register increase

AMMAN (Petra) — The government collected JD 30.209 million in customs duty revenues on imports during January and February of 1985, according to a statistical bulletin issued Sunday. The bulletin said that the figure exceeds the sum collected in the same months of last year by JD 859,000.

Saket calls for wider use of Arabic

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Hikmat Al Saket has requested the cultural counsellor in Paris and Jordan's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to use standard Arabic in conferences and seminars held by the organisation. In his letter the minister said that the use of Arabic will help preserve our cultural and intellectual components and will enable the language to rise to its appropriate position.

U.N. team to assess highland projects

AMMAN (Petra) — A U.N. team is due here on April 14 to make an assessment of a project for developing the high regions in Jordan. The team, representing various U.N. organisations, will be touring a number of areas where projects are being carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture. Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir said that a preparatory meeting to discuss subjects to be raised with the U.N. team will be held on April 3 and will include representatives of various agricultural departments.

Yarmouk holds art display on Karameh

IRBID (Petra) — An exhibition of paintings and drawings was opened at Yarmouk University to mark the 17th anniversary of the Battle of Karameh. The paintings, all by university students, depict various aspects of the battle which took place in 1968.

Amman police arrest two groups of robbers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two bands of robbers have been apprehended by Amman police and some of the stolen goods were retrieved and returned to the owners, according to reports published in the local press Sunday.

A report in the Al Ra'i Arab daily newspaper said that one of the two groups was caught red-handed as its members were about to break into two houses and a store in Jabal Hussein district.

The six-member gang had been in the habit of breaking into shops and homes and stealing various items and many complaints had been made to the police station in Jabal Hussein about stolen cars and other goods, the paper said.

The police prepared plans for arresting the two gangs and succeeded in catching one band of thieves in Jabal Hussein lately, according to the paper which quoted Brigadier Ghazi Jarrar, the director of the Amman Police Department. According to the paper, the Jabal Hussein gang had stolen a mini-bus and had been using it to carry away the stolen items to various hiding places in Amman. The stolen goods were worth thousands of dinars, the paper said.

Brig. Jarrar issued an appeal to the public to refrain from buying any products from vendors unless the seller could prove his identity and give an account of where the goods came from.

He said that reports of thefts and robberies had been coming to the police departments from Sweileh, Dababneh, Nazif and Ashrafieh districts of Amman. One of the gangs involved in the robberies, whose members have now been apprehended, had used a pick-up truck to carry away the stolen goods. The thieves were caught after the police arranged an ambush for them in various regions of Amman, Brig. Jarrar said.



PRINCESS TAGHREED OPENS BAZAAR: Her Highness Princess Taghreed (second left) opens at the Social Development Centre in Hai Nazzal Sunday a charity bazaar organised by the cooperative society of Hai Nazzal ladies centre. On display at the week-long bazaar are embroidery and straw works as well as artificial flowers. Princess Taghreed also patronised the graduation ceremony of three training courses in flower making, sewing and textiles organised by the centre. (Petra photo)

20 workers asked to leave Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Twenty foreign workers are to leave the country after violating the law and regulations pertaining to work in Jordan, according to a decision announced Sunday by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.

The Director of Employment at the Ministry of Labour, Dr. Mansour Utoum, told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that 64 workers of different non-Arab nationalities were deported or ordered to leave the country during 1985.

He said that the reasons were violation of the labour law, violation of work permit regulations, changing the place of work without permission or the termination of contracts and the availability of Jordanian substitutes for the jobs.

Airline delegates condemn grenade attacks on Alia

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a conference of airlines operating in the Middle East Sunday condemned last week's grenade attacks on Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, offices in Athens, Rome and Nicosia and wished the people injured in the attacks a speedy recovery.

The Alia station manager in Athens, who was flown in Saturday night for medical treatment, is reported to be "doing well" at Al Hussein Medical Centre.

Contacted by telephone, a close relative staying with him told the Jordan Times that Khalil Salem Hamideh will be discharged from hospital in two to three days after receiving treatment for his leg injury, sustained during the attack on the Alia office in Athens on Thursday. No other people injured in the attacks in Rome, Athens and Nicosia have been flown in for similar treatment here, he said. Once he is well, Khalil Hamideh will fly back to Athens to resume his duty there, the relative said.

The air transport conference, which started here on Sunday, is organised by Arab air carriers in cooperation with the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The conference chairman Gabi Mer Aziz of Kuwait Airways said that the conference will discuss matters of transport, booking and regulations affecting passengers.

He said that the conferees will present recommendations to IATA which will be circulated to all international airlines as a basis for their operations in the Middle East.

The conference is attended by representatives from Alia, Saudia, Egypt Air, Libyan Airlines, Kuwait Airways, Swissair, Dutch Airlines (KLM), Lufthansa and Gulf Air.

High voltage from Jay Hoggard and Co.

By Jean Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A concert of jazz music, given by the Jay Hoggard Quintet at the Amman Marriott Hotel Saturday night, proved a treat for music lovers and jazz fans alike. The event was held under the patronage of Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jaber and in cooperation with the Friends of the Liver Patients Society and organised by the American Centre in Amman.

Jay Hoggard on vibraphone, Vernon Reid on guitar, Onaje Allan Gumbs on keyboard, Jerome Harris on bass guitar and last but not least, Pheeroan Aklaff on drums, kept the audience on uninterrupted high voltage for more than one hour. The concert started with 'The Guiding Spirit', a Hoggard composition and ended with a Charlie Parker number, after an insistent encore which somehow managed to bring the band back on stage.

Balance seems the most obvious quality of the quintet. Not only in interpretation but also in the sound system setting. Using very modern equipment, such as the Yamaha DX7 keyboard, but without any uselessly or complicated gadgetry, the band delivered an excellent, clean sound.

Another noticeable characteristic of the band is that talent seems well distributed among the five of them. Onaje Allan Gumbs played exceptionally beautiful solos and used the famous DX7 like few musicians can, with much taste and efficiency.



The Jay Hoggard quintet in full swing (Petra photo)

In one passage, played by Hoggard and Aklaff, oriental melodies emerged and enhanced the floating sound of the vibraphone. Jay Hoggard also interpreted a piece written by him while in Morocco; 'Sailing' was played with much sensibility and showed that the five members of the quintet have been able to integrate their personal style in the band, in spite the fact that one member has very recently joined them. However some musicians in the audience found the sound of Vernon Reid too much like 'hard rock'.

Traditional traits

After the performance, the band confessed that they tried not to drift too much away from traditional jazz. Hoggard mentioned John Coltrane as one of his favourite musicians and made also a reference to Lionel Hampton, the well known vibraphonist.

Asked what sort of jazz would he prefer to play, he explained that it depended a lot on the situation, the atmosphere, the country and the audience. This is perfectly understandable since jazz interpretation is very demanding and requires that the musician gives from himself more than in any other type of music. It is very difficult to play good jazz without the famous 'feeling', impossible to describe if one has not experienced it previously.

On a tour which took them to Morocco, Egypt and Syria before coming to Jordan, the quintet is also to perform at Jordan and Yarmouk universities, before leaving for India.

PNC speaker praises Jordan-PLO accord

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Sheikh Abdul Hameed Al Sa'eh Sunday praised the historical Jordanian-Palestinian accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and said: We (the Jordanians and Palestinians) are a unity not a confederation.

In a speech during a visit to the Palestinian Liberation Army Badr Forces headquarters, Sheikh Sa'eh emphasised the importance of Arab unity in order to regain Palestine and Jerusalem.

He congratulated the Badr forces commander on the occasion of his promotion to major-general.

DLDNA prepares events to celebrate national book week

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to mark national book week at the beginning of April as part of the celebrations for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in the "International Year of the Book."

Head of the activities and exhibitions section at the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) Ruwaida Al Azza said that celebrations during the week are in compliance with the department's keenness to promote an interest in reading and books for both research and self-education purposes.

The celebrations also aim to encourage institutions and individuals to take part in the event, Mrs. Azza said.

Nijem inspects road project

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem Sunday made an inspection tour of works on the road linking Mecca street and the University of Jordan crossing.

The minister met with the construction supervision and execution teams at the sites and discussed with reasons impeding progress of the project. Mr. Nijem asked the contractor to speed up the completion of the project to avoid any delays beyond the target date.

The road, which extends three kilometres with six lanes and a dividing island, is estimated to cost JD 500,000.

Hassan calls on youth to train themselves

(Continued from page 1)

tem in Jordan, Prince Hassan said that nearly one third of the population are school students "and we can take pride in this fact, but what we aspire for is to arrive at a level of academic and vocational training that can meet the society's requirements and the local and regional markets," Prince Hassan said.

"The Jordanian society suffers from an ill-concept about education as parents still hope to give their children a university degree because they believe it will be closely connected with their status in society, and unless they obtain such degree they will not attain that status," Prince Hassan said.

He said that perhaps these ideas and these concepts were true in the past "but they should not affect our behaviour at present. Because if this concept continues, then the state will be overburdened with expenses on university training that is no more required by the society."

Referring to the youth of this country, he said they had been greatly influenced by political and economic values that emerged following the oil boom and "characterised with a rampart consumption and extravagant spending on luxuries, and this has resulted in a deep change in the living pattern of many people and gave way to materialism."

"Spending used to come in response to basic needs of individuals and families, but of late spending has become an unjustified phenomenon," Prince Hassan said.

He stressed the need for young men and women to maintain good values which are a source of pride to the country.

With reference to Mu'ta University, Prince Hassan said that it has been based on the philosophy of meeting the country's requirements and on noble concepts.

This university, he said, "is designed to create efficient commanders by providing them with the most up-to-date skills and information needed for the Armed Forces and the security. This university will have to exert strenuous efforts to achieve its aspirations, Prince Hassan concluded.

Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafzah spoke at the outset of the opening ceremony in which he said: "The keenness of His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan on promoting education is a source of pride for all Jordanians."

Earlier, Prince Hassan toured various sections of the newly opened university and was briefed on their functions.

Peres against talks without Israel

(Continued from page 1)

Israelis.

It was also an effort to unify Mr. Peres' multiparty cabinet, which has appeared divided over how to respond to Arab peace overtures.

Mr. Shultz announced he would dispatch the Assistant Secretary of State for Mideast Affairs, Richard Murphy, to the region to explore possibilities for peace talks. Mr. Murphy is expected to arrive in the Middle East in mid-April.

A senior government official said Israel would not oppose Mr. Murphy meeting Palestinians in Jordan or the Israeli-occupied West Bank if they were not members of the PLO.

"We don't see any reason to object" as long as such talks were not the start of formal negotiations, said the official.

"If we're talking about a negotiating delegation for the long range, and Mr. Murphy is coming to bless them, we say no," he said.

The Israelis in the past voiced fears that they would not be able to ensure that preliminary talks would not include members of the PLO. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO, which it regards as a "terrorist" organisation dedicated to the destruction of the Jewish state.

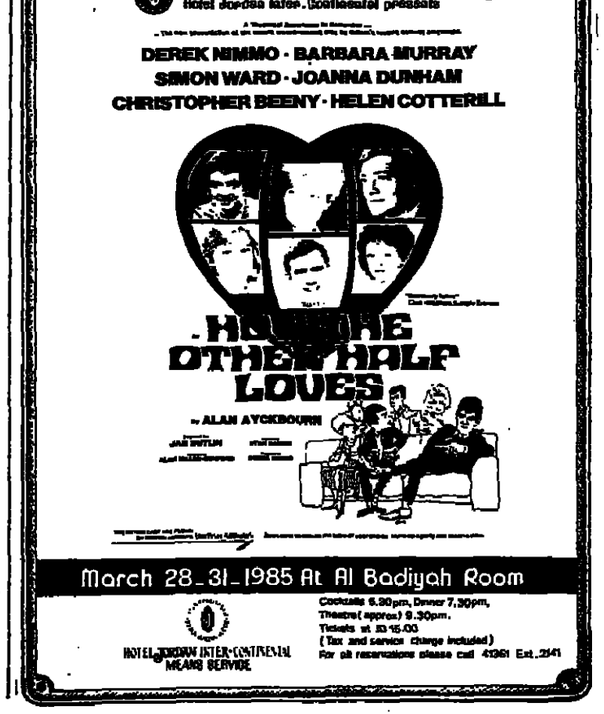
In an interview with the American television network CBS last week, Mr. Peres indicated he may not oppose meetings of Egyptian and Jordanian officials in Washington, saying Israel only demanded that they be "in sequence" with direct talks with Israel.

"Mr. Beilin said Mr. Peres issued his statement to the cabinet to dispel the uncertainty about Israel's position.

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The weird choice

IT IS difficult to understand this American insistence on the exclusion of official PLO representatives from peace talks. If you do not like a man but are willing to discuss your problems with his shadow in order to get results, then you have to start asking yourself questions about the way you are handling things. Is it not better to talk to the man rather than his shadow? Is this not a more reasonable approach to being realistic and solving problems, even if you do not like the choice? What do you expect to get from a shadow anyway?

Well, if this is what the Arabs think, the Americans might argue, why are they themselves not talking to the Israelis directly? Why are they coming to us?

The fact is that the Arabs do want to talk to the Israelis. But they also know what the subject of discussion is. The Israelis, on the one hand, want to have their cake and eat it too. They want Resolution 242 to be the subject of the debate, not the basis for negotiations. They want peace but are not inclined to give up the occupied territories in exchange for it. Where is the point in talking to them, when this is indeed the case?

The Arabs, on the other hand, do not want to talk to the shadow of the Israelis. In the U.S., they would be talking to Israel's financier and benefactor — the country that should have the last word in whether Israel is going to have peace and security or more wars and suffering. Nothing more, nothing less.

Again, Jordan is not insisting on the full participation of the PLO purely for tactical reasons. The PLO exists and is the only legitimate voice of the Palestinian people, as Foreign Minister Taher Masri told the Americans on his recent Washington trip. Why ignore it, if the Americans and the Israelis want true peace in the Middle East? What kind of logic is this?

Fine if the American president has finally agreed to hold talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This is a positive step. But why does his State Department insist that the venue for such a dialogue has to be in the Middle East? Or do not the Americans want the president to be personally involved?

Israel does not mind contacts between Jordanians and non-PLO Palestinians, but still opposes negotiations taking place between these two parties, Shimon Peres said yesterday. What does this mean, for God's sake? That Washington can make contacts with a shadow but cannot talk to it? Coming from Israel, this must be a weird choice. But not for Israel, of course.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Seeking PLO replacement

ISRAEL IS currently involved in a sinister business of helping to create an alternative to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). It is exerting relentless efforts for canvassing support for this new idea, a brainchild of Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli Labour Party and head of the present Zionist government.

Israel is directly involved in this conspiracy and is trying hard to rally some Arabs in the occupied Arab territories to support this evil idea and create a new organisation that would serve its own purpose in any future negotiations over the Middle East issue. Israel's attempts to exclude the legitimate PLO, which is the sole representative of the Palestinian people, from negotiations seem not so much different from certain Arab countries' attempts to impose hegemony over the Palestinians and destroy their legitimate representative.

The people of the occupied Arab regions have earlier helped to thwart these countries' attempts against the PLO leadership and voiced their total support for its legitimacy. It is now up to them again to abort all Israeli attempts aimed at finding an alternative to the PLO leadership. They will not allow the Israeli enemy to stab PLO as their representative, because the Israelis aim at liquidating Palestinian rights and are doing what they can to help achieve that evil goal.

Israel, which has failed to defeat the PLO in Lebanon and in the Beirut siege, is now trying to direct its blow to the organisation in a different form, which we are sure will end up in total failure.

Al Dustour: Arabs should penalise U.S.

OBSERVERS OF the situation in Lebanon who watch the Israeli forces pursuing their atrocities against the local population and demolishing their homes are certain that these actions are backed by the United States. The Israelis have found in an American veto against a Security Council resolution condemning their actions in Lebanon a protective umbrella and an encouragement to them to carry on further repressive measures against the Arabs in Lebanon.

The American veto has opened the door wide for more Israeli massacres and crimes to be committed against the Lebanese people. The current Israeli campaign against the villages of South Lebanon would not have been carried out had the Israelis not secured prior approval from Washington. President Reagan has vindicated Israel from the killing of journalists covering Israeli soldiers' operations in the villages, and has thus encouraged the Israelis to cancel plans for investigating into the killing of these journalists.

We do not blame Israel and the United States alone for what is now happening in Lebanon. But we also blame Arab governments for being impassive as to these actions and for not taking proper retaliatory action to force the United States to pressure its ally into halting its aggressive policy.

The only way to force the Israelis to stop is through a unified Arab action that will bring Washington back to its senses.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. presses for concessions

THE RECENT statements of President Reagan and his secretary of state about the situation in the Middle East and their reserved welcome of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord of Feb.11, conflict with the real intentions of the United States.

George Shultz has said that Washington was concerned for keeping the efforts moving with the aim of reaching a settlement. But he told Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri that Washington would like to see a Jordanian-Palestinian recognition of the state of Israel first as a pre-requisite for Washington to recognise the PLO as a representative of the Palestinian people.

The U.S. administration's stand is a clearly biased one towards Israel and has no objective but to further complicate matters for any future negotiations. It is Palestinian right to existence that should be recognised, not that of Israel since the solution of the Palestinian problem is the key to a settlement of the whole issue. But Washington seems to ignore this fact, and Shultz's statement implies a rejection of the Palestinian presence in any negotiations. Mr. Masri has emphasised that no Palestinian can participate in any negotiations if the PLO is excluded, and therefore the peace process is bound to fail due to this intransigent American attitude.

Guest Column

By Dr. Nayef Zubi

Israel's economy: mismanagement and adventurism

THE ISRAELI economic data do not fail showing disturbing trends: soaring inflation rates, depreciating currency, depleting foreign reserves, stagnant economy, and a huge foreign debt which is considered to be the highest per capita in the world. It is not the claim of military threats and unavoidable military spending which have made Israel's difficulties economic. Rather, they are rooted in a complex of issues, namely: a lack of urgency in dealing with them which has been compounded by massive U.S. aid, a drift towards a state controlled economy, an expansionist ideology, and military adventurism. If a cure is to be found, why not moderate these tendencies?

First, Israel refuses to face up to allocating efficiently limited resources among competing ends. This situation has best been described by Professor Ben-Yorat of Hebrew University in the New York Times by saying, "The government behaved as though you could have the Lavi fighter and the canal between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean and Urban renewal and the settlements and the war in Lebanon." The substantial American aid is partly to blame. Israel has received 10 per cent of the total American foreign aid in the post-World War II period, which was also 50 per cent more of what Western Europe received over the same period. Immediately after the 1973 war, Israel's share of American aid jumped to 13 per cent. An underestimated figure gives a proportion close to 36 per cent of military assistance and almost all of the economic aid, as forgiven annually. In 1984 alone, the U.S. aid package was $2.5 billion and is expected to rise to $3.4 billion in 1985. Israel is now seeking a $4.1 billion aid package for 1986.

Second, government intervention in all facets of economic life has been on the rise. A few years ago Professor Arthur Laffer, an economic adviser to President Reagan, filed in a Los Angeles Times editorial many disturbing figures. The rise in the share of GNP taken by taxes in the 1973-1979 period has risen from 40 per cent to 46 per cent. While 1 per cent of the Israelis were in the 60 per cent tax bracket (the maximum tax bracket) in 1975, the number has risen to 13 per cent in 1980. In the 1973-1979 period transfer payments as a share of GNP has risen by more than 50 per cent. Government spending (non-defence) measured in 1975 prices has risen from 7.6 per cent to 10 per cent in the 1975-1979 period. Concurrently, defence spending as a share of GNP has actually fallen from 24.6 to 17.2 per cent. The real growth in GDP averaging close to 9 per cent in the 1960s plunged to 3.6 low in the 1970s and early 1980s.

Monetary and exchange rate policy including the law that requires financing budget deficits by printing money, unhinging the Israeli pound, and successive doses of devaluation (the last of which was a 23 per cent devaluation in the shekel in October 1983) intended to improve deteriorating balance of payments and trade balance accounts, left the Israel shekel (10 Israeli pounds) worthless, making it useless as a store of value and standard of deferred payments.

Between 1970 and 1982 inflation rates soared to 133 per cent from 6.3 per cent. In December 1984, it was running at an annual rate of 900 per cent. The Israeli pound, which lost half of its value against the U.S. dollar from 1973 to 1976, continued its decline. From 1976 to early 1983, the Israeli currency depreciated at an annual rate close to 60 per cent. In the first eight months of 1983, it lost half of its value again.

The foreign debt picture yields yet another record. $10 billion of the $21 billion Israeli 1985 budget will go for the repayment of debt. Israel perceived among the riskiest in international capital market has accumulated over $24 billion foreign debt ($12 billion to the U.S. alone).

Is Israel's economic problems any surprise then? More government controls are not the answer, they are the problem. Doses of economic aid are not the cure, they add to the troubles. The results of the American and French economic experiments in the last few years clearly indicate the power of private incentives against welfare state capitalism. An advice from an old African master, Mr. Felix Houphouet-Boigny illustrates the point: "you cannot divide wealth until you've produced it, and you cannot produce it without incentives to work and invest."

The third problem is the Settlement Programme in the occupied territories. Uprooting the Palestinian people from their land and setting new borders, which has left more than 25 per cent of the 5500 square kilometre area of the West Bank under de facto annexation to Israel, never made an economic sense. It was an expensive effort advanced on Biblical and political grounds. For example, an initial expenditure of $275,000 per family in Sadot, a Sinai settlement, and assigning four soldiers to guard four mobile homes in Abir Yaacov, a West Bank settlement are nonsense, and have nothing to do with the military as some have claimed.

The cost of the settlement programme has been a drag on the Israeli economy. By 1977, and under labour-led cabinets, 90 settlements had been, or were being, established in the occupied territories with a cost of over half a billion dollars. Since 1977, the settlement programme has accelerated, and now runs at over $100 million annually.

Finally, one would be hesitant to look at Lebanon's invasion in economic terms if it did not turn out to be a fiasco, both militarily and politically. The governor of the Bank of Israel estimated the direct cost of the "Peace for Galilee" adventure in material $2 billion, and in lost business another $1 billion. This does not take into account for the immobilisation of the Israeli economy. The cost of Begin-Sharon underhanded politics designed to stop a PLO military threat that ceased to exist one year earlier has meant $1 million per day. Is this unavoidable military expense?

Israel's problems are rooted in its Zionist expansionist ideology, it is a state which increasingly disregards the notion of borders. The cure for Israel's economic difficulties is in policies that restore confidence, unleashes private incentives, restrict military adventurism and moderate expansionist ideology. And, in this, the U.S. could play a positive role.

Dr. Nayef S. Zubi is a Ph.D. graduate in Business-Finance and Business Economics. He is also a graduate of USC's School of Engineering – Los Angeles. Dr. Zubi teaches at the University of Southern California, Graduate School of Business, California. He contributed this for the Jordan Times.

Egypt faces fundamentalist pressure for Islamic law

By Kate Dourian
Reuter

CAIRO — Muslim fundamentalists are exerting pressure on the Egyptian government to follow neighbouring Sudan and implement Shari'a (Islamic law).

Political sources say President Hosni Mubarak does not want formally to place Egypt under Shari'a, which for example prohibits banks from charging interest, bans liquor and prescribes judicial amputations and floggings.

But in a move to at least dampen the pressure mainly from the Muslim Brotherhood, Speaker Rifat Mahgoub has called for the People's Assembly to debate in May whether to amend current laws to conform more closely to Shari'a and, if so, how.

Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) controls 391 of the 448 seats in the elected parliament and could easily halt any move to put Egypt's population of 48 million, including six million Coptic Christians, under Islamic law.

The Muslim Brotherhood has only seven seats, won last year on the ticket of the right-wing Nationalist New Wafd party. It has not been allowed its own party since being banned 30 years ago by the late President Gamal Abdul-Nasser.

The brotherhood, seeking an Islamic state in Egypt, is not satisfied with achievements under the present constitution, which says all laws should conform with Islam and makes Islam the state religion.

Diplomats believe the government will allow the issue to be aired and might make some concessions, while reiterating allegiance to a 1979 constitutional amendment which declares Shari'a "the principal source of legislation".

Whatever the outcome of the debate, diplomats say popular feeling for Shari'a is growing as faith declines in other current remedies for the problem of Egyptian poverty.

The Muslim Brotherhood was founded in Egypt in 1928. Much more radical outlawed fundamentalist groups are also active in Egypt, among them the Jihad (holy struggle), which is blamed for the assassination of President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Mr. Sadat's assassins were executed, but the trial of 300 alleged associates ended last year with 174 acquittals.

The government has appeared tolerant of non-violent Islamic activism, although it shut the 1,000-year-old Al Azhar University for two weeks last November when calls for Shari'a were voiced there in student riots.

Muslim Brotherhood leader Omar Talemassani told Reuters in response to written questions that "all the rights of the civilian and religious minorities will be guaranteed" if Shari'a is introduced.

The electoral alliance between the Wafd and the Muslim Brotherhood was a bizarre episode in Egyptian politics. Traditionally, the Wafd was backed by right-wing Christian Copts and in the past it had championed a secular state.

Like the brotherhood, the Wafd was banned by President Nasser but won a legal battle to reappear in time for last May's elections. Wafd opponents said the party's decision to allow the Muslim Brotherhood to stand on its ticket and circumvent a ban on the brothers was a ploy to win Muslim votes.

The Wafd issued a statement advocating non-secularism and Islamic law, a departure from previous policy. Its leader, Fuad Serageddin, recently renewed calls for Shari'a and the repeal of all laws that do not conform to it.

The grand sheikh of Al-Azhar, a revered Islamic authority, called in an interview with the newspaper Akhbar El-Yom for the immediate application of Shari'a as the only way to stop "the invasion of Egypt" by modern culture.

The coming debate on Shari'a will include discussion of two laws granting extra rights to women.

The laws, which politicians say Mr. Sadat introduced at the instigation of his wife Jihan and which the Muslim Brotherhood wants repealed, say a man must serve notice of divorce on his wife and that, if children are involved, she retains the home.

Blind theologian Omar Abdul-Rahman, among those acquitted in the trial of alleged members of the Jihad group accused in Mr. Sadat's assassination, has called in a newspaper interview for Shari'a to replace what he called "heretical government".

The interview appeared in El-Noor, one of several Islamic newspapers which sometimes publish articles bordering on extreme fanaticism. Diplomats say Mr. Mubarak tolerates such articles in order to stop zealots going underground.

A member of the leftist Unionist Progressive Party said he believed the introduction of Shari'a was inevitable.

"The Egyptians, especially the youth, are searching for an identity and in our part of the world this is manifesting itself through religion," he said. "How can you deny them this identity?"



Nyerere blames poor-rich system for hunger

This year, Tanzania's president is to step down. On his recent London visit, he talked to **Victoria Brittain** *of the Guardian.*

PRESIDENT Julius Nyerere received a standing ovation from the city establishment at the Mansion House, but, as he said, "it can hardly have been because they liked the message." He had put it plainly. "Africa's debt burden is now intolerable. We cannot pay. You know it and all our other creditors know it. It is not a rhetorical question when I ask, should we really let our people starve so that we can pay our debts?"

The African economic crisis Mr. Nyerere has so often described was finally stamped on the consciousness of the world by the Ethiopian famine pictures. President Nyerere wants the reason for the horror equally indelibly stamped in. "We have a system which inevitably, not because it is run by evil men, but inevitably, transfers resources from the poor to the rich. It did it 20 years ago, and it is doing it now. It is a system of inbuilt exploitation. We simply have to retransfer resources from the rich back to the poor".

Reform of the existing international economic order is hardly the favourite after dinner subject at the Mansion House, nor will the British government have really enjoyed Mr. Nyerere's calm truth telling that "Western governments have used the ignorance of their own people as an alibi for not helping us with development." Africa's foremost statesman, head of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) is not called "mwalimu" (teacher) for nothing, there is the distinct air of the headmaster's study in which Western captains of industry and ministers shrink to bullying, bragging fourth formers.

Later this year Mr. Nyerere steps down as head of state and for two years will devote himself to running the party. "Then I will retire to my village. I have six cows and I will work on my farm and the village farm. My greatest contribution to my country will be helping through the transition process." In the stormy post-independence period in Africa, power-struggles and coups have killed democracy and development in only too many countries: U-turns of ideology have set back the dreams of the independence days.

Mr. Nyerere's Tanzania is the exception. The Arusha Declaration in 1967 dedicated the country to a new path of development. Tanzania was to be a country run by peasants and workers for peasants and workers for peasants and workers. "This year we are having elections. If you want to stand for elections and we find any capitalist associations, you will not stand. In other countries it is the rich who stand for elections — not in ours."

Over the years it has been fashionable to compare Tanzania's development with its more industrialised neighbour Kenya and to conclude that the capitalist model was, by the conventional indices of the economists "a success" and Tanzania was "a failure." Today, as Mr. Nyerere said at the Mansion House, "almost every African country is in trouble — regardless of its political or economic ideology."

Some of Tanzania's most enthusiastic backers in the early attempts to "grope towards socialism" as Nyerere put it two decades ago, have become discouraged at the lack of clear successes. Not President Nyerere. "I was also more impatient 18 years ago. I set out to build a socialist and self-reliant Tanzania. You ask me is Tanzania socialist and self-reliant? The answer is no. But I never expected it in 18 years.

"We were a backward, totally illiterate country. We have had tremendous success. In 1966 there were 300,000 children in primary school for four years. Today all 3.5 million primary school children are getting seven years of schooling. We have virtually wiped out illiteracy. I remember our youth used to ask me at independence: when will we achieve our goals? Perhaps in 30 years, I used to answer."

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank have become the major determiners of economic policies in finance ministries across the continent. Nowhere is the need for foreign exchange more pressing than in Tanzania. "But if African governments are really representing their people, they cannot accept conditions which would lead to more hunger, to social chaos, to civil war, or to the use of armies against their people. I have been trying patiently for five years to reach a deal with the IMF.

Trying without success.

President Nyerere's gentle manner and impeccable politeness overlay a steely appreciation of his, and Africa's enemies.

"The United States is extremely ideological in its dealings with the "Third World". The U.S. made a strategic decision that South Africa is an ally in their global struggle with the Soviet Union. The inevitable consequence of that is constructive engagement, support for South Africa. The U.S. will continue that support and the policies which have effectively blocked independence for Namibia, tried to sow confusion in southern Africa by the Nkomoati accords and the Lusaka agreement with Mozambique and Angola last year.

There is a new wind of change in Africa — "an awakening" is how Mr. Nyerere put it. Poverty, starvation and instability are not the continent's inevitable fate, but as Mr. Nyerere says, the product of a system which has to be changed. A determination to forge the African unity the late Nkrumah of Ghana personified 20 years ago and confront the West with a demand for change which cannot be refused is now President Nyerere's mission.

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'Free press versus new information order'

THE call by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for a new order for world-wide information exchange and flow of news reports has been systematically opposed by some western governments, the U.S. administration in particular. Similar to the urge by "Third World" countries for a New International Economic Order, effort was made at UNESCO for the orientation of a New International Information Order, which Third World countries said would ease the grip of Western news agencies and information sources, accused by "Third World" governments of distorting facts and presenting a grim, biased image of their countries. The controversy led to the U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO and the threat by Japan and Britain to withdraw from the organisation's membership. Following are two articles that reflect different attitudes on the disputed issue. The Jordan Times invites interested parties and writers to comment on this important aspect of international cultural life.

By Cimi Suchotan

WHEN newsmen celebrated Reporters Day last week, the toast should have gone to the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for doing more to strengthen the free press than any other world body. One must add, however, that it did so unwittingly.

It is ironic that UNESCO, in attempting to carry out the now near-defunct new information order, has given the press, both here and abroad, a new sense of solidarity, derived from its toughest fight against press controls.

The new information order was the making of a quagmire. First, it dragged UNESCO into a war against the press. When the press struck back, UNESCO — bogged down and unable to retreat — had to pay dearly for starting the fight.

The United States has walked out. Britain and Japan say they will follow. Now Canada, Singapore and many European members are talking about leaving too. While a few members have their own reasons for withdrawing, it was the UNESCO-press conflict which triggered the dimino reaction.

UNESCO is very unhappy about this. The Americans are equally upset. So is Western Europe. Meanwhile, the "Third World", which stands to lose the most, feels worse.

How could so much misery come to an organisation aimed at improving education, culture, science, and communications? It began quietly in 1978 when the "group of 77" ("Third World" countries) met in Peru and drew a proposal to set up a "new information and communications order."

In a matter of months, the idea was dumped on the laps of UNESCO to carry out the programme. They might as well have signed its death warrant.

The group wanted to use the organisation to construct a pro-"Third World press. Anybody who knows what free press stands for, however, knows the job of the press is not to be "pro" anything.

Its job is to inform, educate and often, entertain. Accuracy is the operative word. Fairness in reporting is its sacred philosophy.

As Time magazine's longtime publisher James Linen said: "the job of the press is not to make any government appear more attractive than it is." To be sure, free press can be the best friend of a good government. But for a bad government, it can be its worst nightmare.

When the plan was revealed, a constant question which nagged newsmen was: just who drew up the plan? Nobody could say. The creators appeared as secretive and vague as the blueprint itself. Had it been drawn up by respectable members of the international press, or even just one representative, things might have worked out differently.

Unfortunately, supporters of the new information order were in a rush to get the order implemented. They boasted that the new order can give a better image to developing countries. The media, they complained, was "controlled by the West."

While it is true that many news agencies are based in Western cities, the claim that Western governments have control over the BBC, Newsweek, or the New York Times is nonsense. Yet supporters of the new order thought little about echoing this twisted notion to argue their point.

In theory, the new order sounds sweet. But who was it fooling? It duped many, however, at UNESCO. The most gullible were those who could never tell the difference between Pravda and the Times.

Fortunately, the free press was not fooled. Oh no, they knew exactly what the new information order stood for. Behind all the egalitarian brouhaha and "more power to the "Third World" jingoism; veteran newsmen suspected sinister forms lurking in the shadows of the new order. Their hunch, in the course of the implementation, proved correct.

When the news broke in 1982, UNESCO said it would set up its new order centre in Kuala Lumpur and begin to work by funding Bernama, the Malaysian state-owned news agency. This was fine by everybody. The next item was a bombshell. When it was announced that Bernama would "channel all news from international wire services," newsmen hit the roof.

A barrage of protest erupted, coming in waves. Strangely, enough, it was first triggered — not as new order supporters would have wanted it, from the West and international wire services — but "Third World" journalists themselves.

For the record, Western-based press were the last to say anything. In fact, most wire services agreed to the new arrangement. "We can't say anything," a bureau chief apologised. Although never clearly said, few wire services cared when it was only "Third World" people who would be affected, not those in their countries.

Even more strange were the protests coming from the most conservative newspapers and from very conservative journalists. Among them, the New Straits Times, Bangkok Post, and South China Morning Post.

The first cries came loudest from Malaysian newsmen and social groups. The civil rights group Al Iran balked at the plan, warning the "news censorship will serve only to provide citizens with a single stereotyped presentation of world affairs."

Hong Kong's respected South China Morning Post joined in the objection in an editorial that slammed the action for making "a mockery of Malaysia's claim to be a democracy."

Two days later, the post decried the move in a hard editorial, as did the nation review. Thai press groups like the Foreign News Editors Club of Thailand which represented journalists from 20 papers, radio stations and TV channels protested. The then club president, Alongkorn Polabutr, said Thai editors were concerned that the move would undercut democratic processes in ASEAN.

When Malaysia's New Straits Times journalist Adibah Amin received the South East Asian (SEA) Writer Award in October that year, she courageously defended the freedom of the press. "When a newspaper loses press freedom," the popular writer warned, "it loses its credibility." For speaking her mind, she was snubbed by many of her state officials who were in town. Today, many applaud here for her courage of conviction. When Malaysia went through a series of traumatic political crises last year, the government in its eleventh hour of need found the free press its most loyal ally.

The fury of the protest was nothing that UNESCO encountered in all its years. Because of the sensitivity of the issue, some of the criticisms were brutal and even personal. It stunned the organisation.

To be sure, UNESCO itself was never objectionable to the press. On the contrary, UNESCO's work in education is highly regarded. But the new information order has appeared contrary to everything the free press stands for.

To have UNESCO funds going to state-run, state-controlled, state-owned news agencies was one thing. It was quite another for it to siphon all news information. For a century and more, people have given the responsibility to the press for deciding the "news fit to print." Overnight, this was to be decided by unknown people nobody seemed to trust.

While newsmen respected state news agencies which honourably voice the opinion of governments, they knew that by their very nature there were limitations.

When U.S. press veterans like Walter Cronkite, Martin Boorstin, and Joseph Pulitzer III passed through the region, they saw the press locked in the struggle against UNESCO and placed their weight behind their Asian colleagues.

Later that year Washington announced it was checking out of UNESCO. It had two main reasons for the pullout. One was that they found UNESCO's new information order intolerable.

True to the threat, the Americans left when the time came. For years, the West could handle harsh criticism from the non-aligned countries labeling them as imperialists. But they could not put up with the new information order. It was the straw that broke the camel's back.

"If anti-Western sentiment was the case in point," argued one UNESCO senior official, "then I have seen the United Nations being a much bigger forum for the "Third World" than UNESCO." But anyone could see, it was easier for them to walk out of UNESCO than to walk out of the United Nations.

Today, the conflict is nearly over. If UNESCO fails to turn the tide, warn insiders, it is a matter of months before the organisation goes belly-up. Could UNESCO not have acted sooner to prevent all this? Not really.

First of all, UNESCO clearly suffered a chronic case of impotency when it came to dealing with the press. In fact, it was hardly prepared to deal with the volatile issue of press freedom.

When UNESCO Director General Amadou M'Bow came to Bangkok in 1983, the Thai press asked him to "clarify" the press issue. Visibly displeased after a couple of questions on the subject, he gruffly told reporters to go home and read the entire text — which runs about as thick as a telephone directory — before asking any more questions.

In the meantime, nothing was clarified. And the newsmen thought Mr. M'Bow and his officials defended the new order poorly.

Another defect was UNESCO's organisational structure which left no room for them to manoeuvre when caught in a crossfire. Under fire, UNESCO officials kept repeating that they did not create the new order. They insisted that they were merely "carrying out the wishes of the majority." In the eyes of many newsmen, it was a lame-duck excuse for bad judgment and inability to act.

Nonetheless, the excuse UNESCO officials gave was of course true. They always do things by consensus, indeed, a fair system. But in the real world which is divided into powerful political spheres, "consensus" is losing its reputation for being fair: it is simply not good enough anymore.

The Group of 77 by their membership alone clearly outnumbers Western members in UNESCO. Moreover, the West has always been worried about Communist powers having a strong sway over many of these countries which makes the "Third World" appear to be leaning towards the Left.

Former U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who recently criticised the new information plan, said the problem arose from the fact that "two-thirds of the Third World is run by authoritarian governments" and many of these countries' human rights records were downright deplorable.

With juntas, dictators and death-squads running loose, can anyone seriously believe they would tolerate a free press? UNESCO never addressed this fear at all. It was quite content to go ahead with the consensus of the Group of 77 despite the grim reality of the situation.

Finally, it would not be an exaggeration to say that a great majority of the "Third World" does not understand the free press. An obvious example was how Chairman Mao viewed the Watergate scandal in Washington. He saw nothing wrong in Nixon's tapes incident. "What was wrong," he asked, puzzled by all the fuss, "with playing with a few recorders?" Now if (the chairman thought nothing about) Mr. Nixon's actions, can you envision what some crazies would do if they get their hands on the newspapers or on radio and television?

Recently, upon his return to open an education conference in Bangkok, Mr. M'Bow appeared to have softened considerably. Mr. M'Bow is working furiously to get the West to stay. He promises big changes to stop the slide.

For the meantime, the new order appears to be fading out of the picture. Many at UNESCO prefer to think of it as a bad dream.

To be frank, the press hopes Mr. M'Bow makes it. Nobody wants to see UNESCO go under. Everyone realises that UNESCO is merely the "fall guy." The real culprits, the spooky designers, have vanished as mysteriously as they came, more like rats abandoning a sinking ship.

The UNESCO-press war has scared both sides, yet it has forged a new unity among "Third World" newsmen. They realise now the challenges for the future are immense and what is really at stake. Much has to be done to strengthen the free press in developing nations. There is an equally critical need to forge better understanding between press and governments.

Just as the press believes it is better to tell the truth because people are tough enough to take bad news straight on the chin, likewise UNESCO should be tough enough to recognise its faults and act to amend them.

—The Bangkok Post.

Randa Habib's Corner

Excessively logical

I AM a person attracted by all what is logical. It seems that this comes from my astrological sign, Capricorn.

Talking about logic, I was flabbergasted on Friday night while listening to the news on Israeli television. The information was about the murder in South Lebanon of two cameramen of the American TV networks CBS. The speaker stressed that those cameramen were Lebanese, as if to lessen the importance of the event: They are not American journalists, and so many Lebanese are dying that two more wouldn't be that dramatic.

Then we were treated to exclusive statements by an Israeli general who was — intentionally, I suppose — chosen to be handsome and good looking. This general explained that Israel had warned journalists of foreign nationalities not to venture into areas that are not completely under Israeli control in Beirut and Sidon. As such, journalists have to passively wait for Israeli forces to massacre the "terrorists", crash with their tanks passersby and drivers, and "clean" the Lebanese zones from the Lebanese...

To go in and see what happens, guided tours could be organised for journalists headed by generals, preferably handsome as the one we saw on our TV screens on Friday. They could be shown the areas where they can film. Being so cooperative, the Israelis would be prepared to supply them with ready-made films showing the glory of the "Israeli Defence Force."

Yes, the Israelis are ready to go out of their way for the sake of foreign journalists. Whose fault is it if some insist to go and see what is happening before the job is finished? If some are so impudent as to film the Israelis while doing their dirty (sorry, I should say glorious) jobs, then be logical, and do not be surprised if they are killed.

Words' war over English in U.S. politics

By Sarah Lambert
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Conservative Americans objecting to the growing use of immigrant languages in state schools and government publications are seeking to amend the constitution to make English the official U.S. language.

"Many Americans now feel like aliens in their own country," says Republican Steve Symms of Idaho who proposed an amendment in the Senate.

The controversy over language follows a recent flood of immigrants from Latin America and Asia.

Leaders of Ethnic groups, especially the large and growing Hispanic-American community, see the "official English" campaign as an attack on minority rights and — intentionally or not — as a form of racism.

"To say we make our country stronger because we make it "U.S. English" is like saying that we make it stronger by making it "U.S. white," Baltasar Corrada, who represents Puerto Rico in Congress, told a hearing on the issue.

Although ability to read and write English is required of immigrants who become citizens, the United States has no official language.

The Symms amendment is unlikely to get serious consideration in a Congress preoccupied with economic and U.S. security matters, but the issue has stirred emotions and "speak English" drives are catching on in some of the 50 states.

English has already been declared the official tongue in Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia, Illinois and Nebraska. A similar drive is under way in Florida, home to thousands of Cuban and other Latin American immigrants.

California, also heavily Hispanic, voted last year to stop printing bilingual election ballots.

But controversy centres on bilingual teaching, which blossomed in the 1970s when President Jimmy Carter's administration issued regulations effectively requiring federally-funded schools to offer native-tongue instruction to those who could not speak English.

The Reagan administration has set aside the Carter regulations, hoping to encourage immigrants to master English as quickly as possible through "total immersion" programmes.

Bilingualism prevails nonetheless in some areas and Hispanic community leaders see the official-English drive as a political device for rooting it out.

In making English "the language of state, federal and local government business", the proposed constitutional amendment would allow only one subject to be taught in an immigrant's mother tongue: English itself.

Instruction in other subjects would have to be in English.

Second languages could be used freely in general community life as well as for public convenience or safety, but they could not appear in election materials or government publications.

"Our aim is to strengthen and use the bond the English language provides for the United States," says Steve Workings of "U.S. English", a grass-roots group backing the amendment.

Hispanic-American leaders such as Julio Barreto, of the League of United Latin American Citizens, say such arguments ignore the economic and educational handicaps of immigrants.

U.S. manoeuvres around UNESCO continuing

On the last day of 1984, the U.S. withdrew from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Soviet weekly "Novoye Vremya" writer **Nikolai Kanayev** *in an article headlined "U.S. manoeuvres around UNESCO continuing," commented on the issue:*

But while dropping its commitments to the organisation, financial commitments in particular, the United States is doing everything in its power to preserve its machinery of pressure, its former rights and privileges at UNESCO. Its aims remain the same: to force a change in the policy of the organisation and the programme approved by its highest bodies at the fourth extraordinary (1982) and 22nd regular session of the General Conference (1983).

At hand is practically an attempt at barring UNESCO from expressing its views on the most important and topical issues of today: the problems of peace and mutual understanding among nations, the struggle to eliminate the nuclear threat, to develop equitable and mutually-beneficial cultural and scientific cooperation on an international scale.

A characteristic example of U.S. behind-the-stage manoeuvres is the setting up at UNESCO of a mission of U.S. observers. Basic rules demand that to set up a mission in another country and at an organisation from which the United States has withdrawn, the U.S. should address UNESCO with an appropriate request. These rules are, however, not for the U.S., which is guided by its imperial ambitions. On Jan. 10, Gregory Newell, Assistant U.S. secretary of state for international organisations, addressed a letter to the UNESCO director general informing him that the U.S. had set up an observer mission in Paris to maintain links with UNESCO and the member states....

The mission will be guided by Mr. Richard W. Ahern, who was in the past U.S. deputy permanent representative to UNESCO. This high-handedness aroused indignation among many members of the UNESCO Executive Board, who attended its extraordinary session in Paris from Feb. 12 to 17. They pointed out that the letter from the American authorities contains a decision rather than a request to the organisation. They raised the question whether this would be a means for continuing pressure on the organisation, in order to make it change its activities in a direction unwelcome to many of its member states.

In a decision taken by it, the Executive Board rightly placed on record that a state withdrawing from the organisation loses all rights and privileges to which UNESCO members are entitled, in particular the quota set for it under the resolutions of the General Conference. The withdrawal of the U.S. automatically deprives it of the right to participate in the sessions of the leading bodies — the General Conference and Executive Board, many intergovernmental councils and committees, conferences and meetings.

After the session, the Western mass media have resumed their attacks against UNESCO. Thus they have only strengthened the impression among the world public that the United States and its closest allies are out to further whip up a hostile atmosphere around UNESCO, the author says in conclusion.

Fears for future of unique frog

By Reg Gratton
Reuter

SYDNEY — Australia's unique gastric brooding frog, which hopped into the international scientific spotlight 13 years ago, could become extinct without revealing exactly how it gives birth through its mouth.

A first species, discovered in a small area of Queensland's subtropical rain forest, has not been seen since 1979 and scientists are resigned to the fact that it has passed into history.

A second larger species was found further to the north early last year but there are now fears that this too could disappear.

The brooding frog (rheobatrachus), the only vertebrate which broods its young in its stomach, spits out the babies after swallowing its eggs.

But no scientist has seen the female frog lay and ingest the eggs either in its rain-forest habitat or in the laboratory.

None have been fully bred in captivity although a year ago a pregnant female of the new species spat out 22 young at the University of South Australia soon after being taken from the wild.

Why and how the aquatic frog's reproductive cycle evolved remains a matter of speculation and its relationship to nearly 200 other species of Australian frogs is still not certain.

Michael Tyler, senior zoology lecturer at the university who has written a book about the frog, said he thought there was a good chance that the newly-found species would become extinct.

He has only one frog for research at the moment because Queensland wildlife officials have decided the animal is scarce.

"It is another species in Australia which is living on the brink of extinction. We cannot afford to sacrifice any for research purposes though from the biological viewpoint it would be terrific to look at this animal," he told Reuters.

Mr. Tyler's University has stopped using the frog to help its medical research into gastric ulcers in humans and is now relying on the ubiquitous queensland cane toad instead.

Scientists found that a hormone produced by the developing tadpoles within the stomach of the brooding frog stopped the secretion of gastric juices and also changed the structural lining of the stomach.

Mr. Tyler is one of a growing number of Australian scientists who believe the disappearance of the first species could be a natural phenomenon.

Conservationists had blamed forest clearing and possibly pesticides for destroying the frog's winter hibernation among leaves away from the streams.

But Keith MacDonald, a research ranger with the Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service, told Reuters several other species had disappeared along with the brooding frog.

"Not everything is attributable to humans: cyclones and a bad wet season could have played an important role," he said.

Mr. MacDonald is studying the diet and range of the second species in its protected location in a national park about 1,000 kilometres north of the Queensland capital, Brisbane.

Despite a very poor wet season, Mr. MacDonald is more optimistic than some scientists about the frog's survival and reported finding a couple of young during a survey trip this month.

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Own goal takes Norwich to trophy

Norwich beats Sunderland in English League Cup

LONDON (R) — Norwich won the 25th final of the English Football League Cup, beating Sunderland 1-0 thanks to two huge slices of luck.

But unfashionable Norwich deserved victory in a competition dominated by Liverpool for four years with a polished exhibition of spirited team work and good attacking soccer.

The good fortune came with an own goal and a missed penalty in their favour, both inside the first four minutes of the second half.

In the 46th minute, Sunderland's Gordon Chisholm was caught in the way of a shot by Norwich's veteran Scottish midfielder Asa Hartford and deflected the ball wide of his goalkeeper with his chest.

Two minutes later, Norwich's young Dutch leftback Denis van Wyk handled the ball in the penalty area after a determined run by Sunderland captain Barry Venison.

But Sunderland's left winger Clive Walker drove the spot kick against a post and saw it cannon agonisingly wide of goal.

Norwich, who gained their first major honour since taking the same trophy in 1962, absorbed all the pressure Sunderland mustered and were frequently unlucky not to improve their advantage after several fluent breakaways.

Sunderland surprisingly included David Corner, 18, in their team but took him off after 62 minutes as it became clear that they needed to throw everyone forward in a bid to equalise.

The subsequent reshuffle did not produce any serious threat to the Norwich defence in which captain Dave Watson was outstanding.

Norwich had the best of a high speed first half and three times went close to taking the lead. After 10 minutes a header by Peter Mendham flew narrowly over the bar and 12 minutes later John Deehan supplied a replica from another crisp attack.

A spell of concerted pressure after 30 minutes, inspired by Mike Channon, almost produced a Norwich goal but first Chris Turner made a brave save from Mark Barham then England youth defender Corner forced a goalmouth clearance from Deehan.

Sunderland's best chance came after 45 minutes when David Hodgson sent Walker clear with a long pass. But van Wyk, who had touched the ball on with his head, recovered to spoil the opening by bringing Walker down on the edge of the area. From the free kick Walker shot high over the bar.

Teams: Norwich City — Chris Woods, Paul Haylock, Denis van Wyk, Steve Bruce, Peter Mendham, Dave Watson, Louie Donowa, Mike Channon, John Deehan, Asa Hartford, Mark Barham. Substitute — John Devine.

Sunderland — Chris Turner, Barry Venison, Nick Pickering, Peter Daniel, Gordon Chisholm, Gary Bennett, David Corner (Howard Gayle), Steve Berry, David Hodgson, Ian Wallace, Clive Walker. **(Jordan Television presented live coverage).**

National stays top of Egypt League

CAIRO (R) — African champions National stayed top of the Egyptian First Division Soccer League Sunday when they beat relegation-threatened Ittihad of Alexandria 1-0.

National, African Cup Winners' Cup holders, scored in the 50th minute when star striker Alaa Maihoub drove from outside the box past goalkeeper Mohammed Fathi.

National's encounter with Ittihad, played in the upper Egyptian City of Minya, was the first of two home games switched by the Egyptian Football Federation to other grounds to punish bad behaviour by fans of the Cairo side.

National, who hit peak form on Friday with a 4-0 win over Tunisia's Marsa in a Cup-Winners Cup match, have two games in hand and Sunday's win gave them a two-point lead on arch-rivals Zamalek.

Zamalek, who won the League last year, are four points ahead of third-placed Ismaili.

Budd wins major title

LISBON (R) — Zola Budd romped to her first major athletics title Sunday when she led from the start to win the Women's World Cross Country Championship.

The diminutive South African-born runner, granted British citizenship last year to enable her to compete in the Los Angeles Olympics and representing England here, totally outclassed the high-quality field to win in commanding style.

American Cathy Branta took second place with Norwegian Ingrid Kristiansen third.

Budd, running barefoot as usual, raced to the front from the gun to lead the field into the first bend with Kristiansen poised on her shoulder.

But she eased clear of Kristiansen, holder of the 5,000 metres world best time, around the 1,500 metres mark and moved away to win comfortably in 15 minutes one second.

Budd, former unofficial 5,000 metres world record holder, had anticipated a fierce duel with Kristiansen, fourth in the Olympic marathon and victor when the two met in a 10 km road race in Oslo last year.

But the 18-year-old Briton must have been surprised by the ease with which Kristiansen's challenge folded.

The 28-year-old Norwegian tracked Budd along with Angela Tooby of Wales and Portugal's Conceicao Ferreira as the Briton set the pace for the 155-strong field.

But only Kristiansen tried to respond when Budd increased the pace and broke free. And she paid dearly for her brief but brave bid by being caught and passed by Branta in the final 200 metres. Branta clocked 15:24 with Kristiansen three seconds further back.

Budd said: "It was easier at the beginning than I thought. I just relaxed and the rest came."

Romanian Fita Lovin, second at these championships in 1982, finished fourth with South African-born Swiss Cornelia Buerki fifth.

Lopes retains title

Carlos Lopes retained his men's world cross-country championship Sunday producing a virtuoso performance to win the title for the third time.

The 38-year-old Portuguese was mobbed by his adoring fans after racing to an emphatic victory here nine years after his first triumph.

It is the first time the title has been won three times since the event was given full World Championship status by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) in 1973.

Lopes, Olympic marathon gold medallist at the Los Angeles games, remained hidden in the pack for much of the 12 km race and only emerged to take control 3,000 metres from the finish.

Navratilova, Sukova reach $500,000 tennis final

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Needing every bit of her tremendous talent and even a little luck, defending champion Martina Navratilova narrowly defeated Hana Mandlikova 7-5, 7-6 Saturday, advancing to the final of the $500,000 Virginia Slims Tennis Championships.

On Sunday, Navratilova will face another Czechoslovakian, fifth-seeded Helena Sukova, in the unique best-of-five-sets title match at Madison Square Garden. Sukova downed Kathy Rinaldi 6-4, 6-2 in their semifinal.

The winner of this 16-player, season-ending tournament will pocket $125,000, the largest purse in women's tennis, while the runnerup collects $60,000.

In a superbly contested match, with both players pulling out a dazzling display of shots, Navratilova won by the slimmest of margins. Mandlikova, who defeated the top-ranked Navratilova in their last meeting, had a set point in both sets.

But Navratilova showed the Madison Square Garden crowd of 15,786 — the largest single-session crowd ever to watch women's tennis — why she is considered one of the greatest players in the history of the game. Time and again, when it appeared Mandlikova was about to close out a set, Navratilova would somehow come up with a winner.

"I wanted it bad," Navratilova said. "I'm just happy I got through."

Actually Navratilova got the first service break in the match, breaking her right-handed opponent at 30 in the third game. But Mandlikova broke right back, at 15, grabbing the last four points in the game.

Then, after Mandlikova held in the fifth game, came a series of breaks as neither player could hold service from the sixth through the 10th games.

It was in the 10th game that Mandlikova suffered her first major setback. Serving at 30-15, she could have reached set point. Instead, she double-faulted to 30-30.

Two points later, Navratilova had the break and had pulled to 4-5.

In the next game, Mandlikova, the no. 3 seed in the tournament, did reach set point when she had the advantage. But Navratilova pulled back to deuce with a drop volley, took the add point with a service winner and closed out the game when Mandlikova sailed a forehand service return long.

Navratilova, reaching the final here for the seventh consecutive year, then dropped only one point in the next two games, breaking Mandlikova at 15 in the 11th game and closing out the opening set with an ace.

The two battled into a tiebreaker and Navratilova immediately jumped out in front. But, as they had throughout this afternoon, they fought on even terms.

Mandlikova saved a match point at 6-5 as both players, standing close to each other at the net, traded volleys, Navratilova finally losing the point when she punched a backhand volley long.

Then Mandlikova had a chance to win the set as she took a 7-6 lead and Navratilova serving. That's when luck came into it.

The first match, by contrast, was a desultory one, marked more by unforced errors than brilliant stroke-making.

Sukova, who ended Navratilova's 74-match winning streak in the semi-finals of the Australian Open last December, never trailed in the match. And she dropped her powerful service only once while breaking Rinaldi's delivery twice in each set.

Sukova, an aggressive serve-and-volleyer, opened up a 4-2 lead in the first set. Rinaldi, who turns 18 Sunday, squared it at 4-4, but Sukova broke service for the second time and then held at 15 for the set.

Scoring often with winning volleys and passing shots, Sukova drew ahead 5-2 in the second set as she broke Rinaldi at 30 in the third game and at love in the seventh.

She then closed out the match in style when, from 30-40, she put away and overhead and blasted in two aces for the match.

Sukova, one of the fastest-rising stars on the women's circuit, gained the semi-finals by beating Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany and Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden.

Rinaldi, who at 14 became the youngest player ever to turn professional, had beaten Carling Bassett of Canada and Kathy Jordan of the U.S. en route to the semi-finals.

Staying at the baseline through most of the match, Rinaldi scored occasionally with sharply-angled groundstrokes and deft lobs.

But she was unable to cope with Sukova's power in the long run, and began to err frequently with her groundstrokes in the second set.

Rinaldi had won two of their three previous matches, but Saturday marked the first time they had played on a synthetic indoor surface.

Australian spinners contain England to 177 runs

SHARJAH (R) — Australia's spinners, spearheaded by Captain Allan Border, contained England to 177 for eight off their 50 overs in the four-nation limited overs cricket tournament Sunday.

Border, a part-time left-arm Orthodox spinner, took three for 21 off seven overs and he was well supported by Murray Bennett and Greg Mathews.

Left-armer Bennett took two for 27 from 10 overs and off-spinner Mathews chipped in with an economical one for 15 from his 10.

England, missing several key players including captain David Gower from the series-winning side in India, made a good start when Graeme Fowler and Tim Robinson added 47 runs for the first wicket from only nine overs.

But after the dismissal of Fowler for 26 by paceman Terry Alderman, the England batting faltered.

Martyn Moxon fell to medium-pacer Simon O'Donnell without scoring and although Robinson and Derek Randall added 42 for the third wicket their progress was pedestrian.

Phil Edmonds (15 not out) and Richard Ellison (24 not out) made some effective blows late in the innings but they were unable to lift the scoring rate sufficiently to push England to the comparative respectability of 200.

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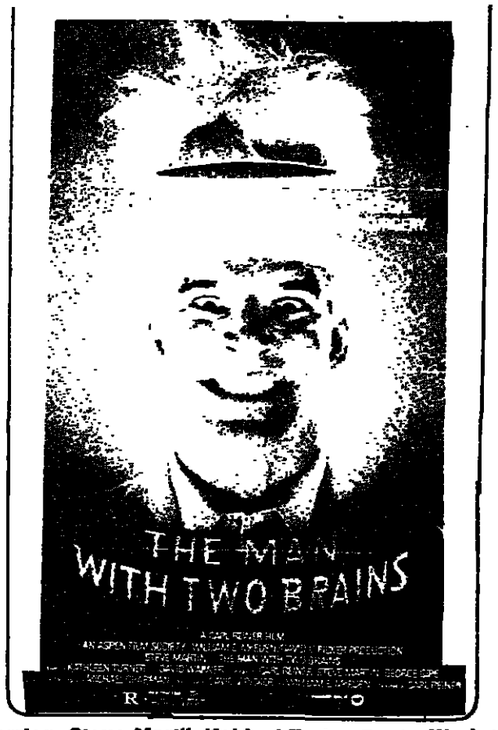
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677420
THE MAN WITH THE TWO PRAILS
(Colour)
Performances 3:30, 6:15 8:30, 10:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 22117
I AM THE REPTILE-KILLER
(Arabic)
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW
Tel: 25155
THE FINAL OPTION
(Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema OPERA
WATCH OUT, WE ARE MAD
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE
Tel: 22117
1- THE STORM
2- THE PRIVATE SCHOOL
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198
HEAVEN'S FURY
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

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Danes begin strike

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark's biggest industrial conflict for 12 years Sunday brought out 300,000 employees in a combined strike and lockout in the private sector.

The dispute, which follows the breakdown of wage talks on Thursday, could cripple food and fuel supplies, transport, docks and wide sectors of manufacturing industry, if it continues.

Planes and ferries were among the first victims of the dispute.

The Scandinavian SAS airline grounded all flights to and from Denmark after mechanics and baggage handlers walked out. Passengers with foreign airlines carried their own luggage.

Small islands were cut off as ferries ceased to operate and farmers on the islands of Lyoe and Avernakoe said milk was poured down the drain for lack of transport.

A hospital at Aalborg in northern Jutland sent hundreds of patients home when a district heating station ran out of fuel.

Power stations are operating, but an electricity board official said broken lines or machinery would not be repaired.

The unions are seeking a shorter working week and higher wages, particularly for the low-paid, above the two per cent increase which they say has been offered.

Political analysts expect the Danish government to intervene in the dispute later this week and to use legal powers to impose a settlement.

The path to intervention was prepared Saturday, when Prime Minister Poul Schlueter met leaders of the opposition radical party to discuss the conflict.

Backing from the radicals would give the minority centre-right government a majority in parliament in favour of intervening.

The strike, which will bite hard Monday when workers fail to arrive for Monday morning shifts, poses a serious threat to the government's economic targets of keeping down inflation and reducing the balance of payments deficit which leapt almost 50 per cent last year to around $1.5 billion.

Riyadh denies oil-jets deal

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia Sunday denied it had reached an agreement with France to acquire more than 40 Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft in exchange for oil. French industry sources said last week negotiations on the deal were in their final stages, and informed Arab sources said terms would include delivery of 77 million barrels of oil in part payment. Each aircraft is said to be worth $23 million. "The kingdom denies what French and other media have said about the purchase of military aircraft. Nothing of the sort has been agreed or finalised," the official Saudi Press Agency quoted what it called a "responsible source" as saying.

Euromarkets become battleground

LONDON — Security conscious. That is perhaps the best way of describing the international capital markets at the start of 1985.

This is not just because after three years of developing country debt crisis bankers are still very choosy about whom they do business with. It is also, and even more important, because of the way in which most business is now being done — through the securities market, rather than by direct bank lending.

The amounts of money intermediated through the capital markets remained very large last year, totalling no less than $227 billion, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

But the syndicated loan market again took a back seat to the international bond markets, where volume soared largely because of the growing popularity of the floating rate note market.

And during 1984 a new form of capital market vehicle, the Euronote issuance facility, established a firm hold on market share, eroding still further the power and position of the big commercial banks.

The Euromarkets have now become a battleground in which the big commercial banks are struggling to maintain their influence against an up-and-coming phalanx of investment banks.

The availability of large amounts of money to lend, once the commercial bankers' trump card, no longer counts for much when their customers can raise cheaper funds elsewhere.

The strength of the investment banks lies in their highly developed ability to provide just this service. By securitising debt and making it negotiable they are able to sell it direct to investors, bypassing the traditional intermediation performed by commercial banks.

This can often be done at rates lower than those at which banks can afford to lend.

Sweden, for example, is able to borrow in the Euronote market at five basis points (hundredths of a percentage point) lower than the London interbank bid rate for Eurodollar deposits, which constitutes the actual cost of money to banking system.

So confident of its rating is Norsk Hydro, the Norwegian energy and chemicals concern, that its finance director, Mr. Georg Stormer, says he will place initial proceeds of the company's new Euro-commercial paper programme on deposit with banks at a profit.

OPEC declining revenues make it harder

For commercial banks this development is nothing short of sinister. Buffeted by the developing country debt crisis, they have seen their own credit standing slip below that of some of their most sought-after borrowers.

The declining revenues of OPEC countries has made it harder for them to attract deposits and they have had no choice but to cede business in the capital markets to the more efficient and sophisticated securities sector.

At its most extreme this process risks forcing commercial banks to fall back on those borrowers whose credit rating is so low they cannot borrow in the securities market.

The overall quality of their assets would then decline and with it, in a downward spiralling vicious circle, their own credit standing in the marketplace.

Banks adopt new strategies

But now, however, many of the big banks which used to dominate the syndicated loan market have realised that they have to fight back by challenging the investment banks at their own business.

Last summer Citicorp announced in London that it was disbanding its syndicated loan division to permit a more flexible marketing strategy for a whole range of Euromarket products.

Similar, but more discreet, organisational changes have taken place at other banks such as Bank of America and Lloyds Bank International as they seek to develop and expand their expertise and placing power in the market for bonds and short-term securities.

For the new emphasis on securities business is not just a question of commercial banks becoming atrophied. The securities business is booming for other reasons too. More buyers are around, especially in Japan, where the financial muscle of the pensions and insurance industry is huge and growing.

Swap markets add to sophistication

Computerisation and the development of the swap market has added immeasurably to the range of opportunities available. And round the world regulations are being broken down in a way that can only make the business of issuing and dealing in international securities freer, and therefore more efficient than ever before.

1984 will be remembered

Indeed, some bankers argue that 1984 will be seen by historians as a watershed year in the international capital markets. Not only did the U.S. finally decide to abolish withholding tax on interest paid to non-residents, enabling the treasury and other government agencies to borrow for the first time in the Eurobond market. Similar steps were taken in other countries, such as Germany and France.

Under pressure from the U.S., Japan agreed to liberalise its own financial markets, creating new opportunities for foreign banks to do business in yen through the development of the Euroyen bond and certificate of deposit market.

Elsewhere the city revolution has begun to break down traditional demarcations in London, while even conservative Switzerland has agreed to let foreign banks lead bond issues and private placements denominated in Swiss francs.

Coupled with the rapid development of the swap market (in which debtors can swap borrowings to shift from one currency to another and from fixed to floating rate or vice versa), this all adds up to what professionals now call a global securities market in which precise needs of borrowers and investors can be met even when they do not superficially appear to match.

For example, a U.S. corporation wanting fixed-rate dollars at a time when Wall Street is weak can raise the money in yen and swap it into dollars.

Even more remarkable, an investor who wants to add to his portfolio of British government gilt-edged stock and increase his exposure in yen can theoretically do just that by buying gilt-edged and swapping the holding into Japanese currency.

In the process, he might find himself picking up a higher yield than if he had just bought Japanese government stock.

Competition is fierce

But this brave new world is far from being an easy one for the banks that now seek to master it. For a start competition rages as never before as participants seek to snatch market share, either by lowering their prices to apparently suicidal levels or by devising more and more fanciful innovations.

The cognoscenti are having a field day in the Euromarkets and new jargon is being added to their vocabulary almost daily.

As with the zeal with which medieval monks once debated how many angels could dance on the head of a pin, bankers home in on the advantages of such unlikely sounding devices as flip-flop floaters and Guns (Grantor Underwritten Notes).

The international capital market may have opted for securitisation but the abundance of new instruments suggests that it is still in a state of flux.

Moreover, it is also a pointer to a much more serious problem that lies ahead. This is the simple fact that there may not be enough new business available to satisfy the needs of all those who want a slice of the cake.

The mammoth recycling task necessitated by the oil shocks of the 1970s is now largely complete. In the main sovereign borrowers need less money than before and other clients, such as large industrial corporations, are now very liquid.

Volume last year was driven by the willingness of many countries, such as Sweden, to renegotiate their debt to achieve lower cost. But that process is also now more or less exhausted. Bankers have to hustle for business as never before.

With margins dropping, only volume can bring an increase in return and as volume grows so does risk.

What if the yield curve changes?

Suddenly investment banks have found their balance sheets growing as their inventory of unsold securities expands. That is all right as long as the stocks can be financed at a profit. But what if the yield curve changes or the dollar crashes and there is a sell-off in the bond markets? Then the losses would really hurt.

Norwegian minister voices support for OPEC policies

KUWAIT (R) — Norwegian Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen has dismissed criticism that Norway, by slashing official oil prices last year, had set the tone for an ensuing round of cuts by other producers.

The minister, who flew here from Qatar Saturday night for a four-day official visit, said after arriving that other producers, whom he did not name, had effectively already reduced prices by offering discounts by the time Norway acted.

Norway and Britain, which followed Oslo's cuts late last year, have come under fire from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) which accuse them of over-producing and undermining OPEC efforts to protect prices.

Mr. Kristiansen voiced support here for OPEC policies. "We believe OPEC's current policies are sensible ... we support them," he said in a statement.

The minister also predicted some rise in prices soon as the United States and Europe would have to restock after heavy winter inventory drawdowns.

In Qatar Saturday, however, he expressed some doubt prices would hold in coming months, although he forecast a long-term improvement.

"... I have a feeling that still there may be a slight lowering of the prices in the short term, and perhaps this year. However, the long-term tendency will be an upward trend in prices," he said in Doha.

Mr. Kristiansen is visiting Kuwait on the final leg of a three-nation Gulf tour which started in Saudi Arabia.

His trip coincides with an official four-day visit by China's Oil Minister Tang Ke, who also arrived Saturday.

But oil industry sources and diplomats say their combined presence is purely coincidental, and no official trilateral talks are planned.

Kuwait and China have set up a number of specialised committees to explore ways of boosting cooperation in petroleum activities.

The Chinese minister's trip follows a visit earlier this month by his country's state councillor for finance and economy, Mr. Zhang Jingfu, to discuss joint venture prospects and investment possibilities for Kuwait in China.

L. American producers see more stability in market

Meanwhile, Latin American oil producers said Saturday in Quito that OPEC production cuts had brought more stability to the market.

Oil ministers from Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador and Trinidad and Tobago said in a statement after a two-day meeting that although risks in the oil market had not been eliminated, they had diminished.

"It can be said that the market is again responding to decisions by exporting countries," the statement said. The four countries export 3.5 million barrels of oil a day between them.

Mexican Natural Resources Minister Francisco Labastida said dangers for producers had diminished because industrialised countries had sharply reduced their stocks over the last few months.

He attributed the reduction to production quotas imposed by OPEC.

Top Soviet economist emphasises need to improve managerial skills

MOSCOW (R) — A leading Soviet academic said Sunday too many factories are run by old men and he urged the creation of Western-style business schools to aid modernisation.

The schools, sought by the head of the Novosibirsk economic institute head, Mr. Abel Aganbegyan, would help managers pursue new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's call for greater efficiency.

The institute is regared by Western experts as the country's most radical official group of economists.

Mr. Aganbegyan, quoting the Kremlin's first economic directive under Mr. Gorbachev calling for "intensification", said a main lever was "improving the management of the economy".

Too many factories were being run by old men with only basic engineering training and no understanding of sociology, psychology or computers, he said.

"Times have changed," he said. "Twenty years ago automatisation was just beginning ... we are living in the century of technological revolution. We cannot think that this has bypassed the sphere of management."

Mr. Aganbegyan, writing in the government newspaper Izvestia, quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying that new technology was opening up scope for initiative.

"But there's no hiding the fact that nowadays the highest organisations try to take decisions for managers and their enterprises, leaving them very little room for showing their own initiative."

He said the solution lay in creating management courses using "active methods" such as computer-modelled games.

He said his institute had achieved success with an intensive three-month course that went far beyond the brief lecture courses normal for Soviet managers.

"Of course this requires effort, time and the means," he said.

"In foreign business schools it costs $20,000 to develop the cheapest business 'game' ... it's clear that it will cost us too," he added.

"If the capitalists do not stint on the finances for teaching business people with active methods then why should we think we can limit ourselves to just lectures," he said.

Western experts say Mr. Gorbachev's drive for greater economic efficiency is likely to include a major shake-up of the country's senior economic managers.

European Community enlargement, Greek problems threaten summit

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community, (EC) already worried that a split over Spanish and Portuguese entry might delay its summit this week, fears that problems with the last new member, Greece, could disrupt the meeting if it did open.

The summit, due to start on Friday, faces the threat of a Greek veto on enlargement of the Community unless the group approves demands for extra aid.

Athens has demanded this aid because it still feels aggrieved over conditions for its own entry four years ago.

A last-minute hitch over French objections prevented the Community's 10 foreign ministers from completing entry negotiations with Spain and Portugal late on Thursday after five days of talks.

Diplomats said they did not expect France to maintain its objections.

The bloc is still hoping the summit can be an occasion for celebration and an opportunity to launch new ideas for the Community's future, with new two members in tow.

Only last week, amid recriminations over the hitch in the enlargement talks, it quietly resolved a long-standing budget problem.

Over the past few weeks it has agreed measures to reform the expensive wine and dairy subsidies systems which lie at the heart of its financial problems and to institute a programme of essential support for farm plans.

The summit's chances of satisfying Greek demands could hinge on developments in Greek domestic politics, diplomats said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MON. MARCH 25, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is good for making new plans of action whereby you can handle your finances, property and other practical matters on a new sound basis.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Morning is fine for going after what it is you want the most and handle your practical affairs in the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An early visit to the barber or beauty shop would be wise. Then make appointments to see those who mean much to you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Daytime is best for that initimate talk with one who means a great deal to you and tonight is fine for ridding the self of tension.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Try once more to gain those ambitions that mean a great deal to you but avoid being forceful in the evening.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Make sure you keep any promises made in the business world during the daytime, but the evening is best spent at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Begin the new week properly by studying some new course and then putting it in operation quickly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Find a better system for handling business affairs of importance. Study your accounting tonight and see the improvement.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Day hours are fine for being with partners and convincing them to go along with your ideas, but don't be forceful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get working on that plan you have formulated and get excellent results. Have a pep talk with co-workers first.

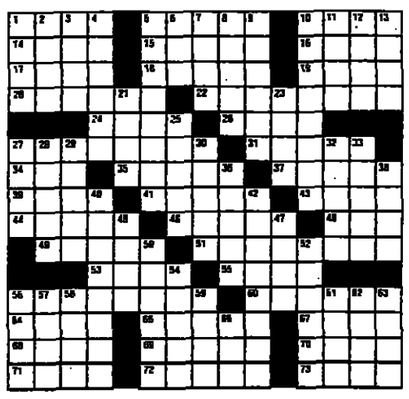
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Seek out amusements that are appealing and enjoy them with congenials, but be careful not to overspend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Problematical affairs at home can be solved wisely during the daytime, but don't make any changes in the evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Confer with partners and then you can increase your productivity, but tonight steer clear of a dull friend.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very successful in the business world or in banking, especially, so give as complete an education as you can. The latter years should be spent quietly and serenely at hobbies. Make sure that good health habits are taught early in life.

THE Daily Crossword by Linda Hooper



ACROSS
1 Judicial bench
5 Goes it alone
10 Letter opener
14 Draft classification
15 Went stealthily
16 Celtic tongue
17 Fix firmly
18 Gelid, only more so
19 Not for
20 Combative fowl
22 Like ferns
24 Grandiose
26 Rhyme scheme
27 Closet item
31 Fencing blades
34 Sale term letters
35 Capital of Morocco
37 Side dish
39 Ethnic group
41 Cowboy contest
43 Josip Broz
44 Dim the eyes
46 Speech defects
48 Skirt edge
49 Man of morals
51 Pub
53 GWTW locale
55 Soon
56 Third World collectively
60 Resting
64 Ripening factor
65 Arctic
67 — and tear
68 Twofold
69 Huge to poets
70 Parched
71 Squirming
72 Onion cousins
73 "The Empire Strikes Back" character

DOWN
1 Fiasco
2 Celebes beast
3 Sign up for business
4 OPEC is one
5 Blade for Ali
6 Fierce whale
7 — Ericson
8 Grand or light
9 Light for a discotheque
10 Sponger
11 Therefore
12 Sales caveat
13 Descartes
21 Copycat
23 Is off guard
25 Computer language
27 European
28 Eucalyptus lover
29 Host
30 Gymnast Comaneci
32 — Yale
33 Gluts
35 Inventor Nikola
38 Cupola
40 In a certain direction
42 Welcoming attitude
45 Horse
47 Pellets
50 Urge on
52 Kind of street
54 Make amends
56 Geological angle
57 Malarial sign
58 Meat
59 Wild plum
61 Dynamic beginning
62 Aforementioned
63 Wagner's earth goddess
66 Clumsy craft

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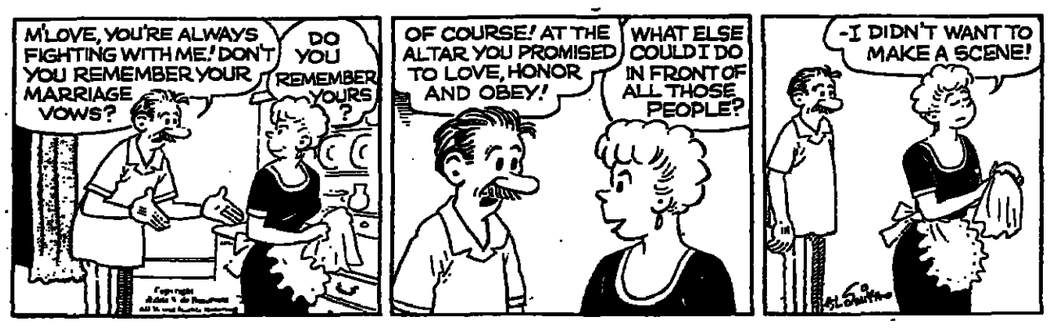
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

A	D	A	M		T	H	E	M	E		B	E	T	H	
T	U	T	U		H	E	X	A	O		E	V	O	E	
A	R	T	S		R	H	I	N	O		F	E	M	E	
T	O	A	T	E	E		T	I	M	B	E	R	E	D	
			A	R	A	B		S	I	L	L				
C	R	A	N	S	T	O	N		T	A	L	L	O	W	
L	U	N	G	E		R	O	S	E	S		A	T	E	
O	M	E	I	S		D	O	R	I	S		A	C	T	I
V	O	N		T	I	N	T	S		A	F	T	E	R	
E	N	T	I	R	E		H	A	R	T	F	O	R	D	
		S	O	H	O		L	E	T	O					
B	R	I	T	T	A	N	Y		G	U	R	N	E	Y	
A	U	R	A		R	I	A	T	A		D	A	N	A	
E	B	O	N		D	O	L	O	R		E	T	O	N	
R	E	N	O		S	N	E	R	D		D	E	S	K	

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF® By Harris



"It's a chewable diet capsule. It's filled with SuperGlue!"

JUMBLE® THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

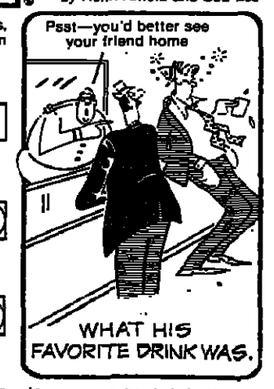
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TUCEA

CENOU

VOXCEN

MORRET



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CROON ABYSS MODIFY NOODLE
Answer: How spring often arrives—"SODDEN-LY"

'Disappeared' Soviet diplomat given U.S. asylum, India says

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — A Soviet diplomat who disappeared in the Indian capital on March 17 has been granted political asylum in the United States, an Indian government spokesman said Sunday.

Igor Gheja, a third secretary in the embassy's information department, flew to the United States after taking refuge in the U.S. embassy here, an external Affairs Ministry Spokesman told the Associated Press. The spokesman asked that his name not be used.

The spokesman said the Soviet ambassador to India, Vassily N. Rykov, informed Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari of the defection Saturday night.

"The American embassy charge d'affaires confirmed the Soviet diplomat left the country and sought asylum at a point outside India," the spokesman said. "He was granted asylum in the U.S. and he is safe."

The spokesman said he had no other details.

Earlier Sunday, two Indian news agencies reported the defection.

The United News of India (UNI) and the Press Trust of India (PTI) both said Mr. Igor Gheja, who was missing after an early morning stroll in a Delhi park last Sunday, had-flown to the U.S. after taking refuge in the American diplomatic mission here.

PTI quoted a U.S. diplomat as saying that Mr. Gheja had sought asylum "at a point outside India."

"The U.S. charge d'affaires has since confirmed that Mr. Gheja had sought political asylum at a point outside India. The U.S. government granted political asylum and Mr. Gheja was safe in the United States," PTI said.

A U.S. embassy spokesman, contacted by the Associated Press, declined to comment.

"Matters of this type should be referred to the State Department," he said.

"I don't know, this is news to me," said Nikolai M. Fedin, head of the Soviet embassy's information department.

Brian Carlson, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department in Washington, said, "I don't have any comment. We never comment one way or another on asylum."

Asked if he was denying the report, he said: "I'm not denying. I'm not confirming it either."

While intial speculation focused on the possibility of defection, Western embassies here said they had no information on Mr. Gheja's whereabouts.

But, according to PTI "there was speculation in Western diplomatic circles that Mr. Gheja could have taken a flight to Kathmandu (the Nepalese capital) on Sunday and flown there to the United States."

It quoted Delhi Police Commissioner S.S. Jog as saying Mr. Gheja might have flown to Kathmandu from the northern Uttar Pradesh state capital of Lucknow as there was no record of his departure from Delhi's international airport.

Nikolai Fedin, the diplomat in charge of the Soviet embassy's information department in Delhi, told Reuters he had no comment on Mr. Gheja's reported defection.

Indian police and intelligence officials had mounted a nationwide hunt for the envoy, who worked in his embassy's information department.

His disappearance was followed on Thursday by the murder of a second Soviet diplomat, Vladislav Khitrichenko.

Mr. Khitrichenko was shot dead by two men riding a motorcycle as he was being driven to lunch in his car near his embassy.

The 48-year-old diplomat's body together with his wife Nina and son were flown home to Moscow Saturday night. A Ukrainian group has claimed responsibility for Mr. Khitrichenko's shooting.

Police have said Soviet officials lodged a complaint of abduction following Mr. Gheja's disappearance.

Security forces have raided the homes of exiles and refugees living in Delhi in a bid to find Mr. Gheja and Mr. Khitrichenko's assassins.

Police had said they suspected both cases were related but reported no progress in investigations.

A Soviet spokesman told Reuters in Delhi Sunday that there had been no further development in the search for Mr. Khitrichenko's killers.

The pro-Soviet Communist Party of India (CPI) said Sunday Mr. Khitrichenko's killing was carried out by Afghans opposed to the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

The Ukrainian claim "was nothing but a cooked up red herring," the party said in a statement condemning the attack.

The pro-Moscow Patriot newspaper said the killing was a careful plot to undermine good relations between India and the Soviet Union. India has condemned the "shocking crime."

Thousands of S.African blacks mourn for six victims of police

UITENHAGE, South Africa (AP) — Thousands of blacks marched Sunday in a funeral procession for six police victims at a segregated township where houses smouldered and three more blacks were killed in clashes with police overnight.

Police spokesman Col. Gerrie van Rooyen said police kept clear of the procession to avoid confrontations with the several thousand mourners in the township of Kwanobuhie, outside this industrial center in the eastern Cape province.

Three more houses of blacks, apparently regarded as collaborators with the white-minority government were burned down overnight, and Col. Van Rooyen said a liquor store and a shop were also set on fire.

One of the destroyed houses belonged to T.B. Kinikini, a township councilor who refused calls to resign. The rest of the council resigned earlier this month.

Col. Van Rooyen said police are "fairly sure" that one of the five charred bodies found Saturday was that of Mr. Kinikini. His son and two friends were also hacked and burned to death when a crowd attacked Mr. Kinikini's funeral home.

Police clashed with protesters who attacked the liquor store and opened fire when the crowd began throwing stones and gasoline bombs, Col. Van Rooyen said.

A black man and a woman were shot to death, and another body was later found near the scene, bringing the death toll in 24 hours of fierce protests to 10, the spokesman added.



A shotgun clamped between his legs a South African policeman buys a newspaper at a police roadblock on the outskirts of the Uitenhage township of Langa, scene of a police shooting on Thursday which killed 19 black protestors (AP wirephoto)

Dozens of armoured riot vehicles and mobile clinics were parked at the edge of the township, and smoke rose from smouldering houses and shops.

Police at roadblocks stopped journalists from entering Kwanobuhie to cover the funeral for the six people killed two weeks ago.

The funeral was originally scheduled Thursday but was banned by a magistrate. Nevertheless, a crowd of 3,000 to 4,000 blacks began marching from Langa, Uitenhage's other black township, to Kwanobuhie for the service.

The government says a unity of 19 policemen fired into the crowd when the marchers refused to turn back as they approached the border of white Uitenhage and began to throw rocks and gasoline bombs.

Witnesses have said the marchers did not stone police or otherwise provoke the shooting. The government has begun a judicial inquiry.

Five of eight parties in parliament, meanwhile, have demanded the resignation of Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange, the Sunday Times newspaper in Johannesburg reported.

The parties, four of them in the two chambers for the Asian and mixed-race minorities, contend Mr. Le Grange has handled riot situations poorly in recent months.

At least 79 blacks have been killed in protests so far this year, according to press reports, bringing the death toll in nine months of unrest to more than 250.

Seoul may return Chinese boat, crew

SEOUL (Agencies) — Seoul may soon return a Chinese torpedo boat and crew now in South Korea to avoid damaging relations between the two countries, an official source said Sunday.

The vessel and its 13 crewmen might be sent back to China as soon as procedural matters were settled, the source said.

Western diplomats in Seoul said negotiations were being carried out through Hong Kong amid signs that both sides were anxious to play down the affair and prevent it affecting their steadily improving relations.

The 45-ton boat was towed by the South Korean navy to the western Kunsan port Saturday after what the Seoul government described as "shooting melee" on board in which six crewmen were killed and two injured.

Diplomats here said a mutiny had been started by crew members who wanted to defect to Taiwan. South Korea said the clash was not politically motivated.

Information Minister Lee Won-Hong said in a statement Saturday's "investigation so far showed that there was no political reasons for the incident."

He noted that the incident took place as Seoul and Peking were steadily improving non-political ties.

The two countries do not have diplomatic relations but have built closer sporting and trade contacts following the hijacking of a Chinese airliner to South Korea in 1983 and subsequent successful negotiations for its return.

Seoul Saturday sent a strong protest to Peking through third countries over the intrusion into South Korean waters of three Chinese warships, apparently in pursuit of the torpedo boat.

China said its naval vessels had inadvertently entered South Korean waters while searching for a torpedo boat which was out of contact. Peking also requested Seoul to assist in returning the boat and all crew members.

Government officials said Sunday the two injured crewmen were recovering after surgery in a hospital in Kunsan city for gunshot wounds. The other 11 were staying in a tourist hotel in the city.

A Taiwanese embassy spokesman said Sunday he did not know whether the crewmen had sought political asylum in Taiwan.

But he said: "If the crewmen want political asylum we would welcome them."

Taiwan's ambassador to South Korea Hsueh Yu-Chi left Taipei for Seoul Sunday, cutting short a two-week home trip.

He said before leaving he expected to meet the crewmen and offer them assistance.

"I would like to talk to them (the crew) individually to find out what actually happened," Mr. Hsueh said.

Taiwanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Henry Wang told the Associated Press the Taipei government was keeping in touch with South Korean authorities to determine whether any of the crewmen want to defect.

He said Foreign Minister Chu Fu-Sung met South Korean Ambassador Kim Chong-Kon Saturday, when the incident became known, but he declined to disclose details of their discussions.

There have been several defections by mainland Chinese to Taiwan via South Korea.

In May 1983, six Chinese hijacked a domestic Chinese airliner to South Korea and in August of that year, a Chinese air force pilot flew a Mig-21 jet fighter to a South Korean air base.

All of them later were allowed to resettle in Taiwan, although relations between Taiwan and South Korea became strained when South Korea refused to allow the hijackers to proceed immediately to Taiwan and convicted them at a trial

COLUMN ONE

Wrong button triggers alarm on BA flight

LONDON (AP) — For two heart-stopping minutes, passengers abroad a British Airways (BA) flight from Portugal to London feared the worst as they prepared for a crash landing in the English Channel. "This is an emergency," came a taped message over the in-flight loudspeaker. "We are going to land on water. Please get your lifejackets from under your seats and await further instructions from the crew." The 100 passengers sat bolt upright and the cabin crew rushed into the aisles before a stewardess emerged to assure everyone it was a mistake. She had pushed the wrong button, she said. Out of more than a dozen tapes — from announcing takeoff to selling duty-free alcohol — the stewardess had chosen the message to prepare passengers for a ditching, a BA spokeswoman explained later.

Nepal to swap rhinos for Indian elephants

KATMANDU (AP) — Four Nepalese one-horned rhinoceros will be sent to India in exchange for 16 Indian elephants, according to officials of Nepal's Department of Wild Life and Conservation. The rhinos, long on the list of endangered species, will be delivered to the Dhudhwa National Sanctuary in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. They will be captured from the Chi Wan jungles in southern Nepal, they said. The 16 elephants will be used for breeding purposes in Nepal, the officials said.

Imelda Marcos writes love song

MANILA (R) — Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippine president, wrote a love song called "Forever" for her husband when she was away from him in Moscow this month, the presidential palace said Sunday. The palace said Ferdinand Marcos and Imelda were still "acting like a pair of starry-eyed teenage sweethearts", after 30 years of marriage. In the latest of a series of statements on Mrs. Marcos' trip to Moscow for the funeral of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, the palace added that the president often writes his wife "Mushy, sweet, sticky notes, poems and letters."

Biggest-ever dinosaur prints found in China

PEKING (AP) — Archaeologists in Inner Mongolia have found more than 1,000 dinosaur footprints dating back 130 million years; the biggest discovery of its kind in China, the official Xinhua News Agency said Sunday. The fossilised prints were found on desert rocks in a 35-kilometre area. The prints are up to 60 centimetres long and were left by creatures with three or four-toed claws, said the news agency.

India sterilises 12 people per minute

NEW DELHI (R) — An Indian family planning campaign aims to sterilise 12 people a minute over the next 19 weeks. The government said the campaign, which started last week, aimed to sterilise 1.2 million people, give contraceptives to one million and intra-uterine devices to 700,000 women. In a message of support, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said the success of the family planning programme was essential for India's prosperity and progress. He stressed it was a voluntary scheme. Experts have predicted that by the year 2050 India's population, now 740 million, would exceed that of China, now just over one billion, if it did not reduce its current annual birth rate of 34 per 1,000.

Ethiopia bans car imports, Sunday motoring

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Famine-wracked Ethiopia has tightened petrol rationing, banned private car imports and will permit only essential vehicles to travel on Sundays to ease its economic problems. The ruling provisional military administrative council Sunday announced the measures, which do not affect the import of vehicles by diplomatic missions and international organisations. Private cars will be allowed three litres a day on the six days they can be driven. Taxi rations are also cut.

New Pakistani prime minister wins confidence vote, urges democracy

ISLAMABAD (R) — Mohammad Khan Junejo, Pakistan's first prime minister in eight years, Sunday won a unanimous vote of confidence from the National Assembly and immediately called for a quick end to martial law.

Mr. Junejo, who was sworn in Saturday night said he told President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq upon accepting his nomination that civilian government and martial law were not compatible.

General Zia, who took the oath for a new five-year term during Saturday's opening session of parliament, has not yet given a date for an end to martial law which he imposed after toppling former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977.

The unanimous vote dispelled some members' fears of an immediate clash between the president and the newly-elected assembly, which flexed its muscles on Friday by rejecting Gen. Zia's candidate for speaker in favour of a young challenger.

But it came only after three hours of procedural debate which arose because Gen. Zia, who has single-handedly issued a series of amendments to boost the president's powers, had not made any provision in the assembly's rules for a vote of confidence.

The partially-restored 1973 constitution allows only no confidence votes.

Mr. Junejo, a 54-year old landowner from sind province, told the assembly: "I asked (Zia) to move according to a definite programme to lift martial law at the earliest date so that a truly democratic and representative government could be established."

Speaking to reporters Saturday night, Mr. Junejo said he also wanted the outlawed political parties to be restored and jailed opposition leaders to be freed soon.

Gen. Zia banned parties from contesting the general election last month and urged the assembly Saturday night to keep from dividing into parties or even informal caucuses.

The government arrested hundreds of political leaders and activists advocating an election boycott and most are still in jail.

In his short speech, the prime minister also echoed a statement by Gen. Zia that Pakistan would continue supporting the people of Afghanistan in their struggle against the Soviet Union.

Mr. Junejo will now begin choosing a cabinet, expected to include several ministers from Gen. Zia's martial law government.

The assembly will reconvene in a few weeks to approve them and begin other work, members said.

300 feared drowned in Dhaka ferry mishap

DHAKA (Agencies) — As many as 300 people were feared drowned after a ferry sank in the Buri Ganga River near Dhaka, local press reports said Sunday.

The English-language Bangladesh Times said the launch, carrying more than 400 passengers, was hit by a storm on its journey from southeastern Chandpur town to Dhaka.

The paper said about 100 passengers were able to swim ashore and the fate of the others remained uncertain.

One of the passengers, in a telephone interview with the Associated Press, said the boat apparently collided with a dredger during the storm. The weather hampered rescue efforts, he said.

The number of passengers aboard the ferry was not known. But the passenger said it had a maximum capacity for 200 passengers and was overcrowded.

An army captain coordinating the rescue operation told Reuters most bodies were trapped inside the hull of the ferry, which authorities said would probably be salvaged by Sunday night.

"I saw the ferry hit a concrete marker (a river route signal), turn on one side and slip into the water," a boatman.

Some survivors blamed the ferry captain for the accident.

"We all begged him to take the vessel to shore immediately after the storm began hitting," said Abdul Kalam, 28. "But he would not listen to us."

"The ferry capsized only 60 yards from the bank and the master could have surely escaped the accident if he acted judiciously," said another passenger.

Police said they were searching for the captain and crew of the ferry.

"We are trying to get them alive or dead," one policeman said.

Meanwhile, six people died and six were injured in a storm that hit Dhaka and neighbouring Narayanganj town Saturday evening, police and hospital sources said.

A source at Dhaka medical college said lightning killed three of the victims. Another person died when he hit a downed electric wire.

Narayanganj police said two people were killed in the town 10 kilometres from Dhaka when a house wall collapsed during the storm, with winds up to 65 kilometres an hour.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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JUST A LITTLE EXTRA

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 2
♡ A
◇ 9 5 3 2
♣ A Q 10 7 5 3

WEST
♠ K 10 8
♡ Q J 9 8 5
◇ J 8 7 4
♣ 2

EAST
♠ J 9 5
♡ 10 6 3 2
◇ Q 10
♣ J 9 8 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 6 4 3
♡ K 7 4
◇ A K 6
♣ K 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♡.

What sets the expert apart from the average player is his ability to combine more than one line of play to achieve the optimum result. How many lines can you spot on this deal?

North-South have reached an excellent contract, and are strong favorites even though the opening lead has knocked out the only entry to dummy's clubs. You win the ace of hearts, cash the king of clubs and cross to the queen as West shows out. The 4-1 club break has put your contract in jeopardy.

You cash the ace of clubs and try the spade finesse. West wins the king of spades and forces out your remaining heart stopper, and you end up with only eight tricks.

You have had abominable luck in the black suits. By combining the possibility of running the clubs with the spade finesse, you have given yourself an almost 90 percent chance to make the contract. But you could have done even better. Have you spotted the additional chance?

At trick two you should cash the ace-king of diamonds and lead a diamond toward the nine. If the suit breaks 3-3, or if East started with two honors doubleton as is the case here, you have set up the nine of diamonds in dummy. If the diamonds don't behave, you have given up nothing. You can still go after the clubs and if they don't break, try the spade finesse. But as the cards lie, you will get home with one spade trick, two hearts and three tricks in each minor suit.

You have given yourself about a 4 percent additional chance for your contract. That does not sound like much, but bear in mind that casinos make millions every year with less of an edge.

Gandhi seeks to ease tensions in hot spots

NEW DELHI (R) — In a bid to calm tensions in two of India's trouble spots, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi made his first visit to the northern state of Punjab over the weekend and toured the riot-hit western city of Ahmedabad.

Amid tight security, Mr. Gandhi flew into Punjab Saturday for a visit seen as the latest move aimed at easing tension between the authorities and Sikhs, most of whom live in Punjab.

At Hussainiwala village, close to the Pakistan border, Mr. Gandhi told a meeting of about 30,000 people, mainly Sikhs, that the government was prepared to discuss any demands within the framework of the constitution.

But he avoided direct references to the political problems of the state, where Sikhs have campaigned for two years for greater autonomy. Instead Mr. Gandhi announced a series of measures to rebuild Punjab's economy.

Hundreds of troops in full battle readiness kept watch and everyone at the meeting went through two security checks.

Mr. Gandhi, sworn in hours after his mother and predecessor Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards last October, has pledged to give top priority to the Punjab crisis.

Two weeks ago, he freed top Sikh political leaders jailed last June when troops stormed the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, to flush out Sikh extremists.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency Sunday quoted a Sikh and former minister in the Pujab state government, Beant Singh, as saying Mr. Gandhi's relief package for farmers came at a "most appropriate time."

Mr. Gandhi's visit to Punjab followed a swift tour of the worst-hit areas of Ahmedabad, where at least 13 people have died and about 100 been injured in a week of factional violence.

After visiting hospitals and talking to riot victims, Mr. Gandhi said opposition parties who lost national elections in December had taken their grievances to the streets.

Street fighting broke out last Monday during student protests over a policy reserving government jobs and university places for India's poor and underprivileged classes and castes.

O'Neill expects close vote on MX

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill says opponents of the MX missile are within striking range of blocking the weapon in the House of Representatives this week, and that the outcome could be decided by a margin as slim as six votes.

"It's an uphill battle, but it's close," Mr. O'Neill, an opposition Democrat and sharp critic of the missile, said in a weekend interview.

He said a headcount conducted within the past few days showed "a hard 196" votes against the MX among the 251 majority-party Democrats in the House of Representatives.

"How the Republicans are going to vote, I really don't know. We have to get some Republican votes, there's no question about that," he said.

The house on Monday takes up President Ronald Reagan's request to free funds for an additional 21 MX missiles, with a vote set for the following day.

He said Saturday he was optimistic the house will vote in his favour on the MX, "if common sense is there."

After a heavy lobbying campaign by the president, the Republican-led Senate voted to provide $1.5 billion for the missile by a 55-45 margin.

Each house of the U.S. Congress will have to approve the funding. If there are differences — which there usually are — a joint committee comprised of members of each house will be asked to resolve them.

"There's no question that the president is doing everything he can over the weekend and pulling out all the stops," Mr. O'Neill said. "They're talking to all my people."

He noted the White House plans to dispatch Max Kampelman, the chief U.S. arms control negotiator in Geneva, to the Capitol on Monday to lobby democrats to the plan.

The administration has argued the MX is needed as a bargaining chip in the U.S.-Soviet nuclear arms limitation talks — a contention Mr. O'Neill and other critics dismiss. "We've got too many nuclear warheads in place at the present time," Mr. O'Neill said.

Mr. O'Neill said opponents seemed to be gaining ground over the past few days with "ones who were wavering."

But, he noted, "the president... has an awful lot to offer to someone who is in public life."

Mr. O'Neill also said the decision by house armed services committee Chairman Les Aspin to support the MX was a potentially costly setback to opponents.

"There's no question that Aspin is a powerful individual as chairman of the committee. He's highly regarded and highly respected on the field of armaments. He's got a following out there," he said.

Mr. O'Neill observed that last year, anti-MX forces prevailed in the house by a single vote "and there are 13 fewer Democrats now."

He said he had chosen not to make the MX missile "a party issue.... It's a matter of conscience. I can't vote for it, but we're not twisting anyone's wrist (putting pressure on anyone.)"

Meanwhile in Geneva, a U.S. spokesman said Mr. Kampelman's surprise trip to Washington is not expected to affect the schedule of the U.S.-Soviet arms talks next week.

Contenders diverse for this year's Oscars

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's Oscar time, and rarely has the list of nominees for filmdom's golden statuettes been more diverse.

As in recent years, the best-picture Oscar for 1984 may well go to a film outside the Hollywood mainstream when the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences dispenses its awards for the 57th time on Monday night.

Nominees in the various categories range from the late Ralf Richardson to Prince, From Peggy Ashcroft to Stevie Wonder. Also contending are Woody Allen, John Williams, a Swiss-made movie, a Russian documentary and the makers of monkey suits for "Greystoke: the Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes."

Two of the last three winners have been films that could not find sponsorship among the major studios: "Chariots of Fire" and "Gandhi." The same is true of one of this year's major contenders. "A Passage to India."

"We tried every studio in town and were turned down," says co-producer Richard Goodwin. "Nobody was willing to take a chance on Devid Lean." The famed director of "Lawrence of Arabia" and "The Bridge on the River Kwai" had not made a film in 13 years, prompting the studios to be wary. "Passage" was financed in England.

Another contender for best picture of 1984 is "A Soldier's Story." Based on a Pulitzer prize-winning play, the project was dropped by one studio and picked up by Columbia Pictures on the priviso of a $6 million budget, miniscule by today's standards.

"Amadeus," a hit play based on the life of Mozart, was acquired by producer Saul Zaentz, who bypassed the hollywood studios and financed the film himself. "The Killing Fields," the story of an American reporter in war-torn Cambodia, was produced and directed by two Englishmen, David Puttnam and Roland Joffe.

"Places in the Heart," Robert Benton's reminiscence of his Texas boyhood, found backing from Tri-Star Pictures, a new company in need of a product.

None of the five nominated films was originated, financed and produced by a major Hollywood company. This is further evidence, some observers believe, of a "quality crisis" in an industry that is hell-bent on attracting the young movie-going audience with fantasy, horror and sex comedies.

The nominees for best actor also represent a trend. At least four are stage-trained performers who shun the glamour trappings of traditional stars: F. Murray Abraham and Tom Hulce of "Amadeus," Albert Finney of "Under the Volcano" and Sam Waterston of "The Killing fields."

Four of the nominees for best actress have already collected Oscars: Sally Field (Places in the Heart), Jessica Lange (Country), Vanessa Redgrave (The Bostonians), Sissy Spacek (The River). The other contender is the Australian newcomer, Judy Davis (A Passage to India).

The race for best direction follows the best-picture nominations — almost. They include Lean, A Passage to India, Forman, "Amadeus," Roland Joffe, "The Killing Fields," Robert Benton, "Places in the Heart." But the academy voters overlooked Norman Jewison of "A Soldier's Story" to nominate Woody Allen for his whimsical "Broadway Danny Rose."